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THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

HOW TO BE RESPECTED.

THE Protestant Dissenters of Great Britain, numerous and powerful though they be, have, until now, been used as a shuttlecock between two contending factions. The genius of party has tyrannised over them, and, like a shorn Samson, they have been made to grind at the mill of a taunting aristocracy. They have served others only to be themselves buffeted by the very men who were borne into power by the strain of their sinews. They have carried their political gratitude to the extreme verge of servility. They have paid that deference to club-minions which they ought to have reserved for sacred principles. They have offered incense to generalities. The cant of liberalism sung them to sleep, and robbed them of those tresses wherein lay their strength. And now that the Philistines be upon them, what are they? where are they? They are nothing but a bye-word of derision—they are nowhere but in the camp of foes. Sir R. Peel regards their outcry but as the buzz of summer flies—Lord John Russell curls up his patrician lip at them in lordly disdain—Macaulay slaps them on the cheek—Sheil spits his venom upon them—and even Hume takes them by the beard and laughingly insults them. This is the rich reward which, under the conduct of very prudent leaders, they have gained for themselves. The men who bade them have done bowing to their principles, and make their obeisance instead to aristocratic whiggery, have brought them, it must be confessed, into a hopeful position. And now, at length, seeing their mistake, but without manliness enough to confess it, they are urging the very counsels for proffering which, three years ago, they pilloried us as marplots—and are urging them, moreover, as though themselves had been the first to discover their wisdom. They have their reward, and we, ours—if they are content, so are we.

If the dissenting body really wish to be respected, their wish may be gratified at small expense. They have only to respect themselves, to respect their own convictions, to respect the great and generous principles which they avow, and the end is gained. It may be safely affirmed, that of the so-called liberal constituency of the empire, they constitute at least three-fourths. They can command their own terms whenever they have spirit enough to rely on their own resources. They have only to substitute "I will" for "may it please your lordship." When once they can get above the awing influence of coronets, and prize worth above rank, and God's truth more than their own notions of expediency—when they are able to look all political factions in the face, and snap their fingers at the professions of all—in short, when they can dare to be independent, and to act with exclusive reference to their own principles, that legislature, which now despises them, will do them reverential homage. They have power—and so has the elephant; but whilst, like the elephant, they carry a rider on their back, to flap their ears and prick them at will into submission, they must expect to be treated with all the contumely of a beast of burden. With ease, they can take that rider and place him at their feet—and, when he rolls in the dust, that pride of his will quickly become changed into humble supplication. What, let us ask, becomes of liberalism when dissenters turn their backs upon it—liberal-

ism that now takes delight in worrying, maligning, defying them? Why, it would be a contemptible remnant of a faction, that could muster, with all its strength, scarcely a dozen members of the House of Commons.

It need hardly be insisted upon that Protestant Dissenters have in their hands a powerful, an almost irresistible, leverage of truth. If, unlike the Anti-corn-law League, they be wise enough to avow all the principles which have secured their favour—if they will unfurl the standard of hostility to monopoly, not of one kind only, but of every kind—if they will set themselves to work out, by such means only as are pure and peaceful, the abolition of all unjust restrictions, commercial and political as well as ecclesiastical—the bulk of the community will rally round them. Their own question—that which calls them parent—that in which their dearest interests are involved—is no abstraction. Its practical issues are broad enough to be discerned by the multitude. It is one of those questions which may be brought to bear with immense effect upon the public mind. It is intimately associated with the general cause of human freedom. It will stir religious feeling to its very depths. It has nothing in it, rightly understood, of sectarianism. Its appeals are all directed to common sense, honesty, patriotism, piety. It has, in itself, a moral power which no tenacity of conventionalism could long withstand. Placed in the van of all the kindred truths which surround it, it would, as it has done, by sheer inherent energy, work itself into notice. But, as the declared aim of a numerous and intelligent electoral party, it would soon become the one object of struggle between popular and patrician power—the pivot upon which the future destiny of the empire would be seen by all parties to turn.

But, then, in order to command respect, it is necessary, not merely to sit astride a noble principle, but to evince sufficient manliness to refuse to dismount at the request of every nominee who may chance to exhibit Reform-club testimonials. When we can foolishly postpone our own wishes to every conceit of this or that political party, and show ourselves more anxious to ally ourselves with respectability than with truth, what can we expect but just what we have got—the sneer of contempt in place of the smile of gratitude? Would we be strong? we must stand upon ground of our own choosing, and refuse to move from it, whether for friend or foe. Politicians will soon come up to our mark, when they are practically convinced that we will not come down to theirs. They are far more dependent upon us, than we upon them. We, without them, should be incalculably better off than we now are—they, without us, would sink into insignificance. Their whole importance is derived from our hesitation—they suck strength out of our weakness. Trooping at their heels, we shall never be above a single march ahead of toryism—and when we most need their help we shall be most certain of being betrayed. Look at the records of the existing parliament. Wherein has liberalism assisted us? In what respect has it earned our confidence? In regard to what great measures of state policy has it shown its superiority to modern conservatism? What inducement can it offer us to forego our own demands at the next general election? And if, adopting a miserable expediency, we again defer to it, what one good result will the country be likely to gain by our subservience?

The time has clearly come for Dissenters to play their part with resolute determination. Hitherto, they have been but counters in the hands of others—henceforth, they must set a due value on themselves. And whenever, indifferent to the fate of factions both of which are opposed to them, they are bold enough to do this—whenever they take their own affairs into their hands, and declare that come what come may, they will fight the battle of their principles in the registration court, on the hustings, and at the poll-booth, then, and not till then, will they be respected by the legislature.

Dr Chalmers has announced his intention of retiring from the public business of the Free Church, in consequence of declining health.

Mr Huxtable, classical tutor at the Baptist college, Bristol, has sent in his resignation, preparatory to joining the established church.

THE CAMBRIDGE CAMDEN SOCIETY, by a majority of 271 to 109, have resolved not to dissolve.

PROTESTANT DISSENTERS ANTI-MAYNOOTH CONVENTION.

THE delegates assembled at Crosby hall, according to appointment, at ten o'clock yesterday morning, a few minutes after which this beautiful and classic edifice was completely crowded.

Dr Cox having taken the chair, *pro forma*, until the Conference was formed, and had chosen its own chairman and officers,

Mr LEGGE, of Reading, Independent minister, opened the proceedings by a very suitable and impressive prayer.

Dr Cox then rose and said: Welcome! in the name of the committee which has called this Conference, I say to you, thrice welcome [hear, hear]! Your gathering together so promptly and so numerous on this great occasion is a noble response to the appeal which was made by those gentlemen who thought it important to convene you together in the present crisis of our ecclesiastical affairs. You have shown, by your appearance here, confidence in their judgment, and right feeling with regard to the object. I hope you will find, and ever find, that that confidence has not been misplaced; while it is evident that they have not been miscalculating when they thought you would readily come from east, west, north, and south, in order to promote the great object which we have in view [cheers]. It is my duty to explain, at the opening of the Conference, that we do not meet on the anti-Popish ground—[cheers]—of hostility to the Maynooth grant. I, for one, have no fault to find with gentlemen who adopt their own course with regard to public proceedings and public objects. Every man is as free to think and act for himself as I am, and as we are. I am for offering no obstruction to the full action of the voluntary principle, which every man is bound to follow out, to the sincerest conviction of his conscience. Nor have I any hesitation in saying that I concur with gentlemen who think that Popery ought not to be endowed, but also that Protestantism ought not to be endowed [cheers], and that dissent ought not to be endowed [cheers]—we meet upon the principle of no endowments in religion. Our object is to stand by the ground of our nonconformity. Whatever ground other persons may think it desirable to stand upon, that is our ground—the simple, scriptural, intelligible, incontestable principle of opposition to all state endowments of religion. Whoever looks into the records of ecclesiastical history will assuredly find that religion has suffered disparagement, whether it has been persecuted or patronised by civil governments. Religion has suffered by the sword, and by being brought into association with the state, and with governments who have not understood the principle of real Christianity. Christianity has suffered materially by being elevated as it has been thought, though really degraded by the dominion and distinction of this world. Never did Christianity appear in such purity, and glory, and power, as when she came forth in all her simplicity, with truth in her mouth, with the olive branch in her hand, and with the thorny crown upon her suffering brow [cheers]. It is not my business now to enter into the general subject of the discussion which will come before the Conference, but simply to introduce the business which you have before you, and then to give up my post. It is for you to adopt such measures as you think proper in the choice of a chairman and other officers to conduct the business of the Conference. But before I sit down, let me say that we have received a number of letters from gentlemen who were earnestly desirous to come to this conference, but who found it impossible to do so. I understand, from the report of what transpired last night in the House of Commons, that Sir Robert Peel and some of his associates have treated the matter as though the feeling of opposition to the Maynooth grant were diminishing. I say, with some knowledge of the fact, that, on the contrary, the feeling is increasing. Sir Robert Peel, if he does attain a victory on this occasion, and procure the third reading of the bill, will, I think, lie in the condition in which Epaminondas was, in ancient times, when walking over the field of triumph, and his companions congratulated him on the victory he had obtained, he replied, "Very true, but such another victory and we are ruined" [cheers]. Now, if Sir Robert Peel will persevere in his purpose, and go on to other measures, I should say that such another victory as this, and Sir Robert Peel will find himself ruined [cheers]. If he attempts another victory in Ireland of this nature, what will be the consequence? It will be the death-warrant of his political being; and I, for one, say

that I would introduce no petition against the execution [loud cheers].

Mr FORSTER, Independent minister of Highgate, stated that he held in his hand the names of the gentlemen who had been nominated as delegates to this Conference, up to last night. They consisted of 525, since which, upwards of 300 more had given in their credentials. He would, therefore, suggest the propriety, for the sake of saving time, that the list be received without the names being read. [The list will be found elsewhere.]

Mr J. CARLILE then moved, and Mr MIALI seconded, the reception of the list, which was put and agreed to.

Dr Cox then left the chair, but said he should not leave the subject [cheers].

Mr THOMPSON, minister, of Chatham, moved, and H. F. COLEMAN, Esq., of Leicester, seconded, and it was unanimously resolved, that Mr J. BURNET, Independent minister, of Camberwell, take the chair.

The CHAIRMAN, on taking that seat, said: I feel that I have no claim at all to the honour conferred upon me, except that which is derived from my constant adherence to the principle that has called us together [cheers]. I shall not trouble you with any speech on that subject, or indeed any speech on this occasion. It is my business to endeavour to keep the order of the meeting, and that I am sure, in this overflowing meeting, I cannot do without your assistance. But as no principle can be understood, and no practice can proceed, without order, and as the preservation of order sometimes requires something like the assumption of despotism, you must allow me to be sometimes in the attitude of a despot on this occasion. The only despotism which you allow, either in church or state, I am sure, is the despotism necessary to the order of a public meeting. I am, therefore, to be the only acknowledged despot [laughter]. But the order is to be short speeches, very good humour, strong yet temperate resolutions, with a decided purpose to carry these resolutions into effect [cheers].

Mr BAYLEY, of Sheffield, Independent minister, then stood forward to state the purpose for which the Conference had been called, and the means by which it had been brought together. Some gentlemen in town, a short time ago, felt that they could not express their objection to the Maynooth grant without going further, and stating their objection to the endowment of Protestantism [cheers]. A meeting was held at Salters' hall, at which a provisional committee, consisting of twenty-five, was appointed. At a subsequent meeting, secretaries had been appointed; and the gentlemen named, after some reluctance, accepted the office. Circulars had been issued by them, and the result was, the assembling of the present Conference. Resolutions had been prepared, dignified as the subject on which they had met, and spiritual as the religion they professed [cheers]. The committee and secretaries now retired from their duties [cheers].

C. B. ROBINSON, Esq., of Leicester, moved:—

"That the Revs. Dr Cox, J. Carlile, and W. Forster, be appointed secretaries to the Convention, and that the thanks of the Convention be given to the retiring secretaries and the committee."

Mr VICKERS, of Nottingham, seconded the resolution, which was put and agreed to.

Mr C. STOVEL, Baptist minister, moved the appointment of a business committee. The following gentlemen were then chosen:—Dr Price, Messrs Mursell, Bayley, Josiah Conder, and E. Miall.

The resolution having been seconded, it was put and agreed to.

Dr Cox moved, that Messrs Vickers, Childs, and Lewis be a finance committee.

Mr MARK MOORE seconded the resolution, which was put and agreed to.

Mr E. FORSTER read the bye-laws, the adoption of which was moved by J. M. HARE, Esq., seconded by Mr ADENEY, minister, and agreed to.

Mr J. CARLILE moved, Mr MORRIS seconded, and it was resolved:—

"That Mr D'Arcy Irvine, Mr Hare, the Rev. R. Eckett, and Mr J. Scoble, be a committee to decide upon the title to admission of delegates applying subsequently to the opening of the Convention."

Dr PRICE then rose and said:—I rejoice in the occasion on which we have met, and at the same time, in the earnest and enlightened spirit which has brought us together. I cannot but consider this meeting as one of the most significant signs of the times, on which the eyes of intelligent men of all classes should be attentively fixed. The state of public feeling and sentiment in these days is obviously moving on in a course which, whatever occasional deviations may take place, is fraught with elements of deep undying interest to those who are deeply concerned in the welfare of their fellow-men. There are opinions and sentiments afloat, modeling to a great extent the inner habits of the mind, and calling forth a course of action from which the feelings, if not the principles, of our fathers, and perhaps of ourselves, in former days, would have recoiled. The resolution which I have to submit is one which embodies important sentiments: it is as follows:—

"That this Conference view with serious apprehension and unqualified disapproval, the bill for the permanent endowment of Maynooth college, recently submitted to parliament by her Majesty's government, and now proposed for a third reading in the House of Commons; that, differing widely, as they are well known to do, in religious faith and worship, from those of their fellow-subjects, whom this measure is professedly framed to conciliate, and attaching to such difference the highest importance, they feel it the more incumbent upon them to declare that they would not, on this account, withhold from others a single advantage which they should justly claim or accept for themselves at the hands of the imperial legislature; that, looking to the circumstances which obviously suggested the bill, and

to the avowed opinion of many of its warmest supporters, they are compelled to regard it as a cautious but deliberate approach towards the establishment of the Roman Catholic church in Ireland; that in their judgment, the alliance of the civil power with any form or forms of religion, and, as the fruit of that alliance, the support, by compulsory exactions, of religious teachers of any denomination, are dangerous to the liberty of the subject, subversive of the rights of conscience, prejudicial to the cause of Christianity, and offensive to God; that, under this conviction, they record their solemn protest against the Protestant church establishments already existing in these realms, as well as against every grant of public money for ecclesiastical purposes; and that, seeing in the Maynooth Endowment bill a further extension of a principle, every embodiment of which they hold to be detrimental to the best interests of the empire, they pledge themselves to make every legitimate effort to prevent its being passed into a law."

Of all the resolutions I have ever submitted to a public meeting, none is more entirely accordant with my own conviction, or carried along with it more deeply the most intimate sympathies of my heart. The resolution, simple and distinct as it is in its avowal of principle, at the same time most cautiously, and with enlightened sentiments, guards against the evil to which such a distinct announcement of our principles might possibly be exposed—at least against such a misconstruction of that principle, as, in the judgment of some amongst us, it might be liable to. An opposition to the bill at present submitted by her Majesty's ministers, and now in the course of the third reading in the Commons House of parliament, on any other principle than that which recognises the no-endowment principle, as the substratum of the movement, has uniformly appeared to myself to involve our proceedings as voluntaries in suspicion, to attach to us in the judgment of the people's mind, apprehensions which are wholly foreign both from our creed and from our conduct, and thereby serves to impair greatly the force of the opposition against the measure that has been submitted. To oppose such a measure, upon the simple ground, or even prominently the ground, of its being an endowment of error, does appear to my mind, by implication, to involve the renunciation of the great radical principle which lies at the basis of Nonconformity [cheers]. In what I say, I express simply my own conviction, but my clear and unfaltering opinion, that, if any class is to be endowed, better for the church of Christ, and more in accordance with my own heart, that error should be taken under patronage, than that truth should be enforced by that patronage which, while it corrupts the clear spring of action in the church, serves to present the truth in a questionable and suspicious light [hear, hear]. We have long had passing before our eyes, forms of ecclesiastical usurpation, against which we ought to have loudly proclaimed, constantly to have attested; but those forms of error under which religion has withered, and the souls of men have passed into eternity fearfully deluded—those forms of error have been permitted not only to live, but to acquire power under the influence of pusillanimity, as abhorrent, in my mind, to the spirit of Christianity, as it is inconsistent with the principles which distinguish the Nonconformists of this country. It is not simply one form of the embodiment of error—the papal system, the worst form; which is, therefore, especially obnoxious to every enlightened dissenting mind—it is not simply this form of error, against which the principles we hold should lead us to utter our practical protest, but the system itself, taken as a whole, whether seen at Rome, or Lambeth, or Scotland, or Geneva, or anywhere else. The whole system, based on the assumption of human authority in matters of religion, the right of man to step in between the conscience of his fellow-man and God, is the system against which the loudest protest should be uttered; and our silence respecting which, in days past, has, in my humble judgment, been our shame [cheers]. It is matter of unfeigned satisfaction that the providence of God has effected what principle ought to have done; but what principle was too weak, in our secular minds, to accomplish. But for the quietude of our intercourse with those about us, or it may be—and this is the most charitable construction—our growing up imperceptibly, as we have done, amidst the blandishments of the system, we have been, to a certain extent, unconscious of its enormity; therefore we have permitted it to live. I hold that there is a force in truth, a force in our evangelical principles, as wielded by enlightened and pious men, which, were that force put out as it might be—if all of us, enlightened by the Spirit of God, were intent to make it the one great purpose of our being, to emancipate and vindicate the religion of our God—would, ere long, bring on that period when Babylon would fall, and fall for ever ["Hear," and cheers]. Not only would the Papacy retire before the power and advancing light of truth, but the offshoots of Papacy, whether seen in England or in Ireland, would fail to spread their moral poison over the spirits of the land. It is with these convictions, honestly expressed, that I go most heartily with the resolution which I am honoured to submit to this meeting [cheers]. This resolution not merely commits us to opposition to the Maynooth bill, but to opposition to that bill founded on the no-endowment principle. It has respect, not merely to the hierarchy of the land, but to all grants of public money for religious purposes, whoever may be the parties to whom such grants are made [hear, hear]. The integrity of this Conference, and the completeness of our own proceedings, require that there should be in this its first resolution a distinct disclaimer of all participation in these, in our judgment, unprincipled and iniquitous imposts. But there is another point of the resolution to which I am desirous of calling your attention, in our opposition to the Maynooth bill on the no-endowment principle—

and that is the only principle on which I would go to the legislature [cheers]—that whilst we base our opposition to the Maynooth Endowment bill upon that simple and intelligible principle, it is obviously incumbent upon us to keep distinctly before the public mind the estimate that we form of Popery, and the strong view which we entertain of the theological system with which the Maynooth college is connected. I would not make the error taught at Maynooth the ground of my appeal to the legislature—for then the legislature might consistently refer me to Oxford, and ask me if truth solely resided there—but I would at the same time say to my countrymen, that I regard Popery as the most obnoxious and degraded form of Christianity which has walked on the earth—as that which has spread more moral poison over an immense portion of the community than any other, and which, to whatever extent it prevails, will be found to foster false principles, to lower men's characters, and promote political servitude. In your appearance, however, before the legislature, the trumpet should give a certain sound, which should not be misunderstood; whilst, at the same time, I would meet the feelings of my own brethren, some of whom I deem too timid and sensitive; and at the same time meet the feelings of those out of doors, by proclaiming, in the terms of the resolution before you, the view with which I regard the spiritual and theological aspect of Popery [hear, hear]. It has been felt advisable by the Committee that, at an early stage of the proceedings, the principles and sentiments of the Conference should be expressed in such a substantive form as this; and, whilst I see the gentlemen and fathers now before me, and remember that they have been convened at much expense, and much personal cost, in this metropolis—convened in a very brief period, and just after another conference has been held, and at a late period in the discussion, when they might have thought it useless to do more—I cannot but congratulate you on the propelling motive which has brought us together; and anticipate from all these events the stirring up of a spiritual force, before which religious error shall retire abashed, and which will serve ere long to plant in the high places of the land indications of truth for which hitherto we have looked in vain [cheers].

Mr TOLLER, of Kettering, in seconding the resolution, said: This question, concerning the grant to Maynooth, has been to me one of the most trying questions on which I have ever been called to take any practical steps. Holding, in common with my brethren as I do, the utter inadmissibility of all state endowments of religion, I yet have felt that if ever it would be safe and innocent to depart from a great and sacred principle, it would be so with respect to the proposed grant to the college of Maynooth. When I consider the gross injustice that has been inflicted on our Catholic fellow subjects in Ireland, especially in connexion with the existence of a proud and opulent establishment in that country, I cannot but feel that, as a fair recompense to them, if it were proper that there should be an endowed church in the world, we ought not merely to grant them the paltry £26,000, but transfer the whole of the revenues of the Irish church into their hands [hear, hear]. And having done this, we should have rendered them but a very moderate compensation for the many acts of misrule and oppression under which they have suffered. There is another ground on which I should have been glad, if possible, to grant them this endowment. I am persuaded it would be the most effective means of depriving their system of all its moral power [hear, hear]. If the voluntary principle be right, then the most effectual way of putting down the rule and working influence of any religious system on the minds of its adherents, is to endow that system. One consideration, that made me reluctant to join in opposition to the endowment of Maynooth, was this. I had some scruples with respect to political agitation, and the convention of large numbers with a view to promote the particular object we have before us. I never could have joined with those meetings that were convened in another place a short time ago [hear]. I hold in the utmost abhorrence that proud spirit which would venture to condemn Roman Catholics as the abettors of error. It seems to me to be an assumption of infallibility [hear, hear]. I allude to our doing this as citizens, and not as private individuals. We cannot expect our legislators to listen to us on that ground, unless we suppose they will grant us the claim of infallibility [hear]. On any other ground what appearance would the whole of the evangelical bodies of England make in contrast to the vast body of the Roman Catholic community? I hold that all evangelical bodies unendowed are small compared with the Catholic community, and, unless we could assume infallibility, we could not call on the legislature to withhold from them the Maynooth endowment, because we, forsooth, please to pronounce their opinions erroneous. But the resolution which has been put forth by the provisional committee, exactly meets my views on the subject. I apprehend that, in coming forward on such an occasion as this, I shall purge myself from the imputation of holding any sympathy with that principle to which I have adverted—opposing the grant to Maynooth simply on religious grounds. It appears to me that the only intelligible ground on which we can go forth in opposition to the Maynooth grant is the voluntary principle itself [cheers]. This is the only ground that will support us. Were we all silent respecting the endowment bestowed on the episcopal church of England, and the presbyterian church of Scotland, it were like being alarmed at a pimple on a man's face, when you know there is a cancer which has been for years eating the vitals of his heart [cheers].

Some few verbal alterations were then suggested

in the resolution, which having been overruled, it was put and carried.

THOMAS HARBOTTLE, Esq., rose to move the second resolution—

"That a petition, founded on the foregoing resolution, be prepared, to be presented to the Houses of Lords and Commons."

I appear before you (he said) as a delegate from the church and congregation of Bowden, near Manchester, and as delegated, further, from the Associated Wesleyan congregation. I had the honour to preside at a public meeting held there about a month ago, on this interesting and important subject; and I can testify to this assembly that there was only one feeling on that occasion; nor can I conceive it possible that there could be other than one feeling amongst conscientious Protestant Dissenters. I feel it a very high honour and a very high privilege to be permitted thus to appear publicly to support our Protestant principles; and I must be permitted to claim for our Manchester Dissenters the first movement on behalf of this question. It may be in the recollection of some, if not of many, that about twelve years ago, a public meeting was held in that county—and I believe the first of that kind—for the purpose of bringing before the public the important consideration of the disavowance of the church from the state. That meeting was most numerous and respectfully attended, and so important did we feel the subject, that we could not get through the discussion on that occasion, but were obliged to adjourn the meeting to the succeeding day. I was chairman, and I was assailed with vituperation, with calumny, with all sorts of opprobrium, for having presided over one of the most extraordinary proceedings ever heard of in the annals of history [laughter]. What, said they, do you mean by the separation of church and state? Do you expect to accomplish such an object? Others said that we had thrown back the measure for fifty years. But if we failed to impress the Protestant part of the country then with its importance, I think I may say that its importance cannot now be mistaken; and if the great question now before parliament produces no other effect than this, it has given, and will give, a prominence to our principles which they never before possessed [cheers]. We ought never to forget, as Protestant Dissenters, that we are the only portion of the religious community that can conscientiously come before parliament on this subject. Others may have their peculiar views to present—and we allow them to present them—but we come on other principles; and I confess that I never felt so proud in my life of the principles of Protestant Dissenters as I do at the present time; and therefore I feel peculiar pleasure and high gratification in being permitted to present this resolution [loud cheers].

Dr GODWIN said: I heartily concur in all the great principles that have been laid down in the first resolution, and which it is proposed to embody in the form of a petition to the Houses of Lords and Commons, but at the same time, as we have freedom of speech, and perfect good humour, I must say that it would have pleased me quite as well if there had been rather a stronger cast of disapprobation of that particular form of religion which is now to be established. I know that I differ from many [hear, hear]. Here is my old friend Dr Cox, with whom I have lived in harmony and friendship, and I differ from him a little [laughter]. The Doctor said that we had met on the anti-endowment principle, and that we had no respect to the "no-popery" principle. Now I have a great respect for that, and therefore I cannot go with him in that particular. When I consider the history of Popery, when I consider how pre-eminently hostile it is to the civil and religious liberty of mankind, I do feel a degree of alarm and apprehension when I see that the first step is taken towards the complete endowment of it. If it is endowed in Ireland, what shall prevent it from being endowed in England? Though error is error, yet there are different degrees of error; and Popish error I feel to be worse than all the rest. I am sure, however, that I am not hostile to the Roman Catholics, and even Mr Gathercole declared that I was a Roman Catholic myself [laughter and cheers]. Whenever I have seen their civil and religious principles in jeopardy, I have been one of the first to come forward on their behalf, but I am not at all inclined to a union of church and state. I sympathise with what my brother has said in the great wrongs that the Roman Catholics, or rather the Irish, have suffered, and if there were any possibility of showing them our good feeling, our Christian liberality, our sympathy with them, as fellow-subjects, which did not infringe on the rights of conscience, I would do it most cordially, if it cost ten times the amount that is now proposed [cheers].

Mr R. ECKERT wished to ask Mr Harbottle a question. He understood that gentleman to state, that he represented the Associated Wesleyans: he (Mr E.) presumed that he meant the Wesleyan Association of Bowden.

Mr HARBOTTLE: The Wesleyan Association; but at the time I took the chair we were associated with the Wesleyan body, as well as the Associated Methodists.

The resolution was then put and carried.

On the motion of Dr Cox, seconded by Mr EDGAR, a committee, consisting of Dr Price, Josiah Conder, Esq., Mr J. Carlile, and Mr Pinchett, was appointed to prepare a petition to be forthwith submitted to the House of Commons.

Mr J. H. HINTON said: We have been striking a blow at the branch, but every branch springs from a root, and we must go to the root of this matter [hear, hear]. After passing our resolutions expressing our objections to the Maynooth Endowment bill, and agreeing to petition against the bill, it is proper to inquire whence the measure may have

arisen, and to direct our endeavours towards the extermination of its root and origin. "By their fruits ye shall know them;" and that certainly cannot be a good tree which brings forth such bad fruit as the Maynooth Endowment bill. If we ask whence such a measure had its original cause, I cannot agree with hon. members of parliament who have said that they regard it simply as an educational bill. It is not; but if it were, I should be an advocate for government letting that alone [cheers]. It is a bill for educating clergymen—ministers of religion; a bill providing for the education of ecclesiastics. It is, therefore, an ecclesiastical measure; and it brings an ecclesiastical question before us. Why may we suppose the government to have brought in an ecclesiastical measure—a measure for endowing an ecclesiastical body, additional to all ecclesiastical measures and endowments which have already had an existence amongst us, and thus endeavoured to make a fresh ecclesiastical endowment, avowedly springing from the old one? If there never had been state-patronage before, they never would have thought of beginning it now. On the contrary, I take it that statesmen would be very glad if they could go back to the beginning, and have a government without any connexion between church and state at all [hear, hear]. The church has been the source of the greatest trials they have experienced, and I believe it is chiefly with a view to keep the old vixen tolerably quiet, that they have introduced this bill [laughter and cheers]. I have to move—

"That this Conference regards the proposed endowment of the Maynooth College, as one of the many and natural results of a state church; that, to uphold its unrighteous and impolitic supremacy, it foresees that other and similar misappropriations of the public property will be proposed by parliament, as occasions arise; and that, therefore, it is the duty of Protestant Dissenters, chiefly to aim at the repudiation of the assumed right by the state to interfere with the religious affairs of her Majesty's subjects in any form."

The ministers of state, mighty men as they are, cannot help themselves here. The gigantic endowment of the Protestant church, in a country in which there are large masses not of that church, is found to be a great social wrong—a violation of social morals. As some writers tell us, the infliction is a vast mischief, and it vexes and irritates a great many people, so that the government are placed in a dilemma. They are like a mother who has petted one child, till its waywardness annoys all the rest of the family; and, in order that she may keep the boy quiet, she says, "I will give you a sugar plum" [laughter and loud cheers]. Because the endowment of the Protestant church in Ireland has produced so much irritation there, the ministers of state are obliged to offer some little endowment to the Roman Catholic church there. "There is something for you—a message of peace—an olive branch—a conciliation [cheers]. The Irish church has its hundreds of thousands, but there is thirty thousand for you. It is only a little, but it is a token that you shall have more by-and-by, only be quiet." The state church is the root of the whole business. It is very well known that this is not to be the last of the endowments of Romanism; it is an ingenious, crafty, nice beginning, but statesmen have told us that it must and ought to lead to the endowment of the Roman Catholic clergy themselves. Then, what is to be said and done? We are not to confine our hostility to the measure for the endowment of Maynooth. If we can, and I am afraid we cannot, get rid of this measure, should we see Sir Robert Peel and the government abandon it, we still should have our work to do. The very thing which is the seed, and origin, and life of this measure, will remain in all its power; and if we prevent the upas-tree of the establishment putting forth this branch, we shall leave the stem and the root in all their energy, and there will be an attempt to send out branches every year, which will give us our work to do over again [hear, hear]. We must take this occasion, therefore, to direct our energies with zeal and determination towards obtaining a separation of church and state [cheers]. If the Dissenters were to let this opportunity pass without girding on their armour afresh, they would be guilty of a greater folly and dereliction of duty than I, for one, could venture to ascribe to them. As the occasion summons us to this war, we must keep the vantage ground on which the war is to be carried on [cheers]. Religious establishments of Christianity had their origin, I doubt not, in a sense of the truth and value of Christianity, and a desire to help it. Religious establishments may all of them have had their origin, perhaps, in a sense of the truth, or value, or importance, of a particular system which they were to sustain, so that the theory of an establishment which has been brought before us is, that the state should uphold religious truth [cheers]. There should not be such an amount of influence exerted as the state has at its command except for truth. That is the theory of an establishment, but now that is altogether thrown overboard. There is the power of the state employed, not simply to uphold the truth, but equally to uphold error; to uphold certain kinds of religion, not because they are deemed to be true, but because the views are held by parties in the community large enough to make it necessary to please them. It is an undisguised avowal that religion is now used as an implement of state policy, that it is not done for the sake of religion, but because religion has an influence over masses of the people, and therefore the state must patronise them all, that the entire community may be governed in peace. On the principle to which I have referred, there have been many friends of religious establishments before, that will now be opposed to them. The Noels, the Stowells, the Bickersteths, have said, that if the state is equally to uphold truth and error, then

they would rather that the state should let religion alone [cheers]. We shall have the ranks of the Anti-state-church Association replenished by members of the church of England [cheers]. If there be any circumstance which tends to detach from the body maintaining religious establishments, such men as those I have named, and the large class of men through the country with whom they may be identified, a great inroad upon the strength of such establishments, I maintain, will be made. It is not by the ambitious, the artful, the unprincipled, that a great national institution can be kept up; the strength of it lies in the better, the more enlightened part of the community. If we can only reduce the supporters of state establishments to the awkward squad of the ambitious, we shall weaken them, and they will tumble down by their own weight [cheers]. I think the attempt to shore up the old buildings of religious establishments, will make them totter to their fall, and they will present an object of assault more open to appliances made for their destruction than they have ever done before. Strengthened, in some measure, for a time they may be, by obtaining fresh patronage from those who get little bits of endowment [laughter]; but to a very small extent, as compared with the united opposition raised to them, and the earnest zeal which shall be exerted for their overthrow, to come some time, whether sooner or later, from the movement now in progress. This cause is not to go back. It is, like the little snow ball, to increase year after year, and generation after generation; and it shall increase till we, or our children, strike the last blow with the axe we now raise up against this deadly and mischievous tree [loud cheers].

Mr PRATER, of Northampton, then addressed the meeting from the back of the hall, in so low a tone that it was frequently difficult to catch his precise remarks. We understood him to say, I think there are some advantages to be gained from joining with those with whom we may not sympathise on other subjects. We may direct our united energies to the defeat of their measures. At the same time, I think it important, as Dissenters, to take the opportunity of fully and clearly understanding on what principles our opposition is based. I said to a clergyman in my own neighbourhood, that I would adopt any course he might pursue to overthrow this measure; but that I was prepared to go further than he would do. I do not know that it should be regarded as a compromise to join with those who entertain such views as the gentleman to whom I referred. It seems to me imperative that the Dissenting community should place before the country, and before their fellow-subjects in Ireland, a full statement of the grounds on which they rest their opposition. I have feared that there was some danger lest it should be supposed, that if Dissenters did not sympathise with Popery, yet they were guilty of seditious latitudinarianism on that subject. I think that, as religious men, it is our duty to speak strongly, and with all the power that the time may require, on the doctrinal errors of the church of Rome [hear, hear]. I think the resolutions to-day have been so framed as to preclude much misapprehension, and the opposition I feel to the doctrinal errors of Popery, only renders me the more concerned that we should take the ground we are now taking. I was last year in Geneva, and there the numerical majority has become Catholic. It is supposed, that in the course of ten or twenty years the majority will be decidedly on the side of Popery [cheers]. That very subject is opening the eyes of those who have been the firmest adherents to establishments, to see the real state of misery that must result from them, and many are directing their energies to the maintenance of what may be regarded as truth. It is possible that the Catholic church, if not established in Ireland, will receive large subsidies. It is, therefore, most important to state the objection which, on every ground, we entertain to the connexion between church and state. I think that this movement will tend to enlighten many devout churchmen on this matter. I have heard many clergymen of veracity state that sooner than take the latitudinarian ground that statesmen are now doing, they would adopt the voluntary principle. The old ground is abandoned. For instance, the allusion to a father and his family. The notion that it is the duty of government to protect religion, just as a father would watch over his family, seems to be altogether denounced. Now we are practically carrying out the principle that, every form of error, however gross, if it be maintained by a sufficient number of the community, is to receive artificial strength from a public fund. I believe that there are many who are brought to see that, if we are thus reduced, we must adhere to the constitution of things laid down in the New Testament, and make the church of Christ subsist on the arm of Omnipotence [cheers].

The resolution was then put and carried.

The committee appointed to draw up the petition then returned. Mr CONDER read that document, which, after the suggestion of some verbal amendments, was adopted amidst loud cheers. It was as follows:—

"To the Hon. the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled—

"The petition of the undersigned Deputies and Ministers, being Protestant Dissenters of different denominations, from various parts of Great Britain and Ireland, convened in London, for the purpose of opposing the endowment of Maynooth college, and all other state endowments of religion,

"Sheweth—

"That your petitioners view, with serious apprehension and unqualified disapproval, the bill for the permanent endowment of Maynooth college, recently submitted to parliament by her Majesty's government, and now proposed for a third reading in the House of Commons,

that I would introduce no petition against the execution [loud cheers].

Mr FORSTER, Independent minister of Highgate, stated that he held in his hand the names of the gentlemen who had been nominated as delegates to this Conference, up to last night. They consisted of 525, since which, upwards of 300 more had given in their credentials. He would, therefore, suggest the propriety, for the sake of saving time, that the list be received without the names being read. [The list will be found elsewhere.]

Mr J. CARLILE then moved, and Mr MIALI seconded, the reception of the list, which was put and agreed to.

Dr Cox then left the chair, but said he should not leave the subject [cheers].

Mr THOMSON, minister, of Chatham, moved, and H. F. COLEMAN, Esq., of Leicester, seconded, and it was unanimously resolved, that Mr J. BURNET, Independent minister, of Camberwell, take the chair.

The CHAIRMAN, on taking that seat, said: I feel that I have no claim at all to the honour conferred upon me, except that which is derived from my constant adherence to the principle that has called us together [cheers]. I shall not trouble you with any speech on that subject, or indeed any speech on this occasion. It is my business to endeavour to keep the order of the meeting, and that I am sure, in this overflowing meeting, I cannot do without your assistance. But as no principle can be understood, and no practice can proceed, without order, and as the preservation of order sometimes requires something like the assumption of despotism, you must allow me to be sometimes in the attitude of a despot on this occasion. The only despotism which you allow, either in church or state, I am sure, is the despotism necessary to the order of a public meeting. I am, therefore, to be the only acknowledged despot [laughter]. But the order is to be short speeches, very good humour, strong yet temperate resolutions, with a decided purpose to carry these resolutions into effect [cheers].

Mr BAYLEY, of Sheffield, Independent minister, then stood forward to state the purpose for which the Conference had been called, and the means by which it had been brought together. Some gentlemen in town, a short time ago, felt that they could not express their objection to the Maynooth grant without going further, and stating their objection to the endowment of Protestantism [cheers]. A meeting was held at Salters' hall, at which a provisional committee, consisting of twenty-five, was appointed. At a subsequent meeting, secretaries had been appointed; and the gentlemen named, after some reluctance, accepted the office. Circulars had been issued by them, and the result was, the assembling of the present Conference. Resolutions had been prepared, dignified as the subject on which they had met, and spiritual as the religion they professed [cheers]. The committee and secretaries now retired from their duties [cheers].

C. B. ROBINSON, Esq., of Leicester, moved:—

"That the Revs. Dr Cox, J. Carlile, and W. Forster, be appointed secretaries to the Convention, and that the thanks of the Convention be given to the retiring secretaries and the committee."

Mr VICKERS, of Nottingham, seconded the resolution, which was put and agreed to.

Mr C. STOVEL, Baptist minister, moved the appointment of a business committee. The following gentlemen were then chosen:—Dr Price, Messrs Mursell, Bayley, Josiah Conder, and E. Miall.

The resolution having been seconded, it was put and agreed to.

Dr Cox moved, that Messrs Vickers, Childs, and Lewis be a finance committee.

Mr MARK MOORE seconded the resolution, which was put and agreed to.

Mr E. FOSTER read the bye-laws, the adoption of which was moved by J. M. HARE, Esq., seconded by Mr ADENEY, minister, and agreed to.

Mr J. CARLILE moved, Mr MORRIS seconded, and it was resolved:—

"That Mr D'Arcy Irvine, Mr Hare, the Rev. R. Eckett, and Mr J. Scoble, be a committee to decide upon the title to admission of delegates applying subsequently to the opening of the Convention."

Dr PRICE then rose and said:—I rejoice in the occasion on which we have met, and at the same time, in the earnest and enlightened spirit which has brought us together. I cannot but consider this meeting as one of the most significant signs of the times, on which the eyes of intelligent men of all classes should be attentively fixed. The state of public feeling and sentiment in these days is obviously moving on in a course which, whatever occasional deviations may take place, is fraught with elements of deep undying interest to those who are deeply concerned in the welfare of their fellow-men. There are opinions and sentiments afloat remodeling to a great extent the inner habits of the mind, and calling forth a course of action from which the feelings, if not the principles, of our fathers, and perhaps of ourselves, in former days, would have recoiled. The resolution which I have to submit is one which embodies important sentiments: it is as follows:—

"That this Conference view with serious apprehension and unqualified disapproval, the bill for the permanent endowment of Maynooth college, recently submitted to parliament by her Majesty's government, and now proposed for a third reading in the House of Commons; that, differing widely, as they are well known to do, in religious faith and worship, from those of their fellow-subjects, whom this measure is professedly framed to conciliate, and attaching to such difference the highest importance, they feel it the more incumbent upon them to declare that they would not, on this account, withhold from others a single advantage which they should justly claim or accept for themselves at the hands of the imperial legislature; that, looking to the circumstances which obviously suggested the bill, and

to the avowed opinion of many of its warmest supporters, they are compelled to regard it as a cautious but deliberate approach towards the establishment of the Roman Catholic church in Ireland; that in their judgment, the alliance of the civil power with any form or forms of religion, and, as the fruit of that alliance, the support, by compulsory exactions, of religious teachers of any denomination, are dangerous to the liberty of the subject, subversive of the rights of conscience, prejudicial to the cause of Christianity, and offensive to God; that, under this conviction, they record their solemn protest against the Protestant church establishments already existing in these realms, as well as against every grant of public money for ecclesiastical purposes; and that, seeing in the Maynooth Endowment bill a further extension of a principle, every embodiment of which they hold to be detrimental to the best interests of the empire, they pledge themselves to make every legitimate effort to prevent its being passed into a law."

Of all the resolutions I have ever submitted to a public meeting, none is more entirely accordant with my own conviction, or carried along with it more deeply the most intimate sympathies of my heart. The resolution, simple and distinct as it is in its avowal of principle, at the same time most cautiously, and with enlightened sentiments, guards against the evil to which such a distinct announcement of our principles might possibly be exposed—at least against such a misconstruction of that principle, as, in the judgment of some amongst us, it might be liable to. An opposition to the bill at present submitted by her Majesty's ministers, and now in the course of the third reading in the Commons House of parliament, on any other principle than that which recognises the no-endowment principle, as the substratum of the movement, has uniformly appeared to myself to involve our proceedings as voluntaries in suspicion, to attach to us in the judgment of the people's mind, apprehensions which are wholly foreign both from our creed and from our conduct, and thereby serves to impair greatly the force of the opposition against the measure that has been submitted. To oppose such a measure, upon the simple ground, or even prominently the ground, of its being an endowment of error, does appear to my mind, by implication, to involve the renunciation of the great radical principle which lies at the basis of Nonconformity [cheers]. In what I say, I express simply my own conviction, but my clear and unflinching opinion, that, if any class is to be endowed, better for the church of Christ, and more in accordance with my own heart, that error should be taken under patronage, than that truth should be enforced by that patronage which, while it corrupts the clear spring of action in the church, serves to present the truth in a questionable and suspicious light [hear, hear]. We have long had passing before our eyes, forms of ecclesiastical usurpation, against which we ought to have loudly proclaimed, constantly to have attested; but those forms of error under which religion has withered, and the souls of men have passed into eternity fearfully deluded—those forms of error have been permitted not only to live, but to acquire power under the influence of pusillanimity, as abhorrent, in my mind, to the spirit of Christianity, as it is inconsistent with the principles which distinguish the Nonconformists of this country. It is not simply one form of the embodiment of error—the papal system, the worst form; which is, therefore, especially obnoxious to every enlightened dissenting mind—it is not simply this form of error, against which the principles we hold should lead us to utter our practical protest, but the system itself, taken as a whole, whether seen at Rome, or Lambeth, or Scotland, or Geneva, or anywhere else. The whole system, based on the assumption of human authority in matters of religion, the right of man to step in between the conscience of his fellow-man and God, is the system against which the loudest protest should be uttered; and our silence respecting which, in days past, has, in my humble judgment, been our shame [cheers]. It is matter of unfeigned satisfaction that the providence of God has effected what principle ought to have done; but what principle was too weak, in our secular minds, to accomplish. But for the quietude of our intercourse with those about us, or it may be—and this is the most charitable construction—our growing up imperceptibly, as we have done, amidst the blandishments of the system, we have been, to a certain extent, unconscious of its enormity; therefore we have permitted it to live. I hold that there is a force in truth, a force in our evangelical principles, as wielded by enlightened and pious men, which, were that force put out as it might be—if all of us, enlightened by the Spirit of God, were intent to make it the one great purpose of our being, to emancipate and vindicate the religion of our God—would, ere long, bring on that period when Babylon would fall, and fall for ever ["Hear," and cheers]. Not only would the Papacy retire before the power and advancing light of truth, but the offshoots of Papacy, whether seen in England or in Ireland, would fail to spread their moral poison over the spirits of the land. It is with these convictions, honestly expressed, that I go most heartily with the resolution which I am honoured to submit to this meeting [cheers]. This resolution not merely commits us to opposition to the Maynooth bill, but to opposition to that bill founded on the no-endowment principle. It has respect, not merely to the hierarchy of the land, but to all grants of public money for religious purposes, whoever may be the parties to whom such grants are made [hear, hear]. The integrity of this Conference, and the completeness of our own proceedings, require that there should be in this its first resolution a distinct disclaimer of all participation in these, in our judgment, unprincipled and iniquitous imposts. But there is another point of the resolution to which I am desirous of calling your attention, in our opposition to the Maynooth bill on the no-endowment principle—

and that is the only principle on which I would go to the legislature [cheers]—that whilst we base our opposition to the Maynooth Endowment bill upon that simple and intelligible principle, it is obviously incumbent upon us to keep distinctly before the public mind the estimate that we form of Popery, and the strong view which we entertain of the theological system with which the Maynooth college is connected. I would not make the error taught at Maynooth the ground of my appeal to the legislature—for then the legislature might consistently refer me to Oxford, and ask me if truth solely resided there—but I would at the same time say to my countrymen, that I regard Popery as the most obnoxious and degraded form of Christianity which has walked on the earth—as that which has spread more moral poison over an immense portion of the community than any other, and which, to whatever extent it prevails, will be found to foster false principles, to lower men's characters, and promote political servitude. In your appearance, however, before the legislature, the trumpet should give a certain sound, which should not be misunderstood; whilst, at the same time, I would meet the feelings of my own brethren, some of whom I deem too timid and sensitive; and at the same time meet the feelings of those out of doors, by proclaiming, in the terms of the resolution before you, the view with which I regard the spiritual and theological aspect of Popery [hear, hear]. It has been felt advisable by the Committee that, at an early stage of the proceedings, the principles and sentiments of the Conference should be expressed in such a substantive form as this; and, whilst I see the gentlemen and fathers now before me, and remember that they have been convened at much expense, and much personal cost, in this metropolis—convened in a very brief period, and just after another conference has been held, and at a late period in the discussion, when they might have thought it useless to do more—I cannot but congratulate you on the propelling motive which has brought us together; and anticipate from all these events the stirring up of a spiritual force, before which religious error shall retire abashed, and which will serve ere long to plant in the high places of the land indications of truth for which hitherto we have looked in vain [cheers].

Mr TOLLER, of Kettering, in seconding the resolution, said: This question, concerning the grant to Maynooth, has been to me one of the most trying questions on which I have ever been called to take any practical steps. Holding, in common with my brethren as I do, the utter inadmissibility of all state endowments of religion, I yet have felt that if ever it would be safe and innocent to depart from a great and sacred principle, it would be so with respect to the proposed grant to the college of Maynooth. When I consider the gross injustice that has been inflicted on our Catholic fellow subjects in Ireland, especially in connexion with the existence of a proud and opulent establishment in that country, I cannot but feel that, as a fair recompense to them, if it were proper that there should be an endowed church in the world, we ought not merely to grant them the paltry £26,000, but transfer the whole of the revenues of the Irish church into their hands [hear, hear]. And having done this, we should have rendered them but a very moderate compensation for the many acts of misrule and oppression under which they have suffered. There is another ground on which I should have been glad, if possible, to grant them this endowment. I am persuaded it would be the most effective means of depriving their system of all its moral power [hear, hear]. If the voluntary principle be right, then the most effectual way of putting down the rule and working influence of any religious system on the minds of its adherents, is to endow that system. One consideration, that made me reluctant to join in opposition to the endowment of Maynooth, was this. I had some scruples with respect to political agitation, and the convention of large numbers with a view to promote the particular object we have before us. I never could have joined with those meetings that were convened in another place a short time ago [hear]. I hold in the utmost abhorrence that proud spirit which would venture to condemn Roman Catholics as the abettors of error. It seems to me to be an assumption of infallibility [hear, hear]. I allude to our doing this as citizens, and not as private individuals. We cannot expect our legislators to listen to us on that ground, unless we suppose they will grant us the claim of infallibility [hear]. On any other ground what appearance would the whole of the evangelical bodies of England make in contrast to the vast body of the Roman Catholic community? I hold that all evangelical bodies unendowed are small compared with the Catholic community, and, unless we could assume infallibility, we could not call on the legislature to withhold from them the Maynooth endowment, because we, forsooth, please to pronounce their opinions erroneous. But the resolution which has been put forth by the provisional committee, exactly meets my views on the subject. I apprehend that, in coming forward on such an occasion as this, I shall purge myself from the imputation of holding any sympathy with that principle to which I have adverted—opposing the grant to Maynooth simply on religious grounds. It appears to me that the only intelligible ground on which we can go forth in opposition to the Maynooth grant is the voluntary principle itself [cheers]. This is the only ground that will support us. Were we all silent respecting the endowment bestowed on the episcopal church of England, and the presbyterian church of Scotland, it were like being alarmed at a pimple on a man's face, when you know there is a cancer which has been for years eating the vitals of his heart [cheers].

Some few verbal alterations were then suggested

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in the resolution, which having been overruled, it was put and carried.

THOMAS HARBOTTLE, Esq., rose to move the second resolution—

"That a petition, founded on the foregoing resolution, be prepared, to be presented to the Houses of Lords and Commons."

I appear before you (he said) as a delegate from the church and congregation of Bowden, near Manchester, and as delegated, further, from the Associated Wesleyan congregation. I had the honour to preside at a public meeting held there about a month ago, on this interesting and important subject; and I can testify to this assembly that there was only one feeling on that occasion; nor can I conceive it possible that there could be other than one feeling amongst conscientious Protestant Dissenters. I feel it a very high honour and a very high privilege to be permitted thus to appear publicly to support our Protestant principles; and I must be permitted to claim for our Manchester Dissenters the first movement on behalf of this question. It may be in the recollection of some, if not of many, that about twelve years ago, a public meeting was held in that county—and I believe the first of that kind—for the purpose of bringing before the public the important consideration of the disavowal of the church from the state. That meeting was most numerous and respectfully attended, and so important did we feel the subject, that we could not get through the discussion on that occasion, but were obliged to adjourn the meeting to the succeeding day. I was chairman, and I was assailed with vituperation, with calumny, with all sorts of opprobrium, for having presided over one of the most extraordinary proceedings ever heard of in the annals of history [laughter]. What, said they, do you mean by the separation of church and state? Do you expect to accomplish such an object? Others said that we had thrown back the measure for fifty years. But if we failed to impress the Protestant part of the country then with its importance, I think I may say that its importance cannot now be mistaken; and if the great question now before parliament produces no other effect than this, it has given, and will give, a prominence to our principles which they never before possessed [cheers]. We ought never to forget, as Protestant Dissenters, that we are the only portion of the religious community that can conscientiously come before parliament on this subject. Others may have their peculiar views to present—and we allow them to present them—but we come on other principles, and I confess that I never felt so proud in my life of the principles of Protestant Dissenters as I do at the present time; and therefore I feel peculiar pleasure and high gratification in being permitted to present this resolution [loud cheers].

Dr GODWIN said: I heartily concur in all the great principles that have been laid down in the first resolution, and which it is proposed to embody in the form of a petition to the Houses of Lords and Commons, but at the same time, as we have freedom of speech, and perfect good humour, I must say that it would have pleased me quite as well if there had been rather a stronger cast of disapprobation of that particular form of religion which is now to be established. I know that I differ from many [hear, hear]. Here is my old friend Dr Cox, with whom I have lived in harmony and friendship, and I differ from him a little [laughter]. The Doctor said that we had met on the anti-endowment principle, and that we had no respect to the "no-popery" principle. Now I have a great respect for that, and therefore I cannot go with him in that particular. When I consider the history of Popery, when I consider how pre-eminently hostile it is to the civil and religious liberty of mankind, I do feel a degree of alarm and apprehension when I see that the first step is taken towards the complete endowment of it. If it is endowed in Ireland, what shall prevent it from being endowed in England? Though error is error, yet there are different degrees of error; and Popish error I feel to be worse than all the rest. I am sure, however, that I am not hostile to the Roman Catholics, and even Mr Gathercole declared that I was a Roman Catholic myself [laughter and cheers]. Whenever I have seen their civil and religious principles in jeopardy, I have been one of the first to come forward on their behalf, but I am not at all inclined to a union of church and state. I sympathise with what my brother has said in the great wrongs that the Roman Catholics, or rather the Irish, have suffered, and if there were any possibility of showing them our good feeling, our Christian liberality, our sympathy with them, as fellow-subjects, which did not infringe on the rights of conscience, I would do it most cordially, if it cost ten times the amount that is now proposed [cheers].

Mr R. ECKETT wished to ask Mr Harbottle a question. He understood that gentleman to state, that he represented the Associated Wesleyans: he (Mr E.) presumed that he meant the Wesleyan Association of Bowden.

Mr HARBOTTLE: The Wesleyan Association; but at the time I took the chair we were associated with the Wesleyan body, as well as the Associated Methodists.

The resolution was then put and carried.

On the motion of Dr COX, seconded by Mr EDGAR, a committee, consisting of Dr Price, Josiah Conder, Esq., Mr J. Carlile, and Mr Pinchett, was appointed to prepare a petition to be forthwith submitted to the House of Commons.

Mr J. H. HINTON said: We have been striking a blow at the branch, but every branch springs from a root, and we must go to the root of this matter [hear, hear]. After passing our resolutions expressing our objections to the Maynooth Endowment bill, and agreeing to petition against the bill, it is proper to inquire whence the measure may have

arisen, and to direct our endeavours towards the extermination of its root and origin. "By their fruits ye shall know them;" and that certainly cannot be a good tree which brings forth such bad fruit as the Maynooth Endowment bill. If we ask whence such a measure had its original cause, I cannot agree with hon. members of parliament who have said that they regard it simply as an educational bill. It is not; but if it were, I should be an advocate for government letting that alone [cheers]. It is a bill for educating clergymen—ministers of religion; a bill providing for the education of ecclesiastics. It is, therefore, an ecclesiastical measure; and it brings an ecclesiastical question before us. Why may we suppose the government to have brought in an ecclesiastical measure—a measure for endowing an ecclesiastical body, additional to all ecclesiastical measures and endowments which have already had an existence amongst us, and thus endeavoured to make a fresh ecclesiastical endowment, avowedly springing from the old one? If there never had been state-patronage before, they never would have thought of beginning it now. On the contrary, I take it that statesmen would be very glad if they could go back to the beginning, and have a government without any connexion between church and state at all [hear, hear]. The church has been the source of the greatest trials they have experienced, and I believe it is chiefly with a view to keep the old vixen tolerably quiet, that they have introduced this bill [laughter and cheers]. I have to move—

"That this Conference regards the proposed endowment of the Maynooth College, as one of the many and natural results of a state church; that, to uphold its unrighteous and impolitic supremacy, it foresees that other and similar misappropriations of the public property will be proposed by parliament, as occasions arise; and that, therefore, it is the duty of Protestant Dissenters, chiefly to aim at the repudiation of the assumed right by the state to interfere with the religious affairs of her Majesty's subjects in any form."

The ministers of state, mighty men as they are, cannot help themselves here. The gigantic endowment of the Protestant church, in a country in which there are large masses not of that church, is found to be a great social wrong—a violation of social morals. As some writers tell us, the indication is a vast mischief, and it vexes and irritates a great many people, so that the government are placed in a dilemma. They are like a mother who has petted one child, till its waywardness annoys all the rest of the family; and, in order that she may keep the boy quiet, she says, "I will give you a sugar plum" [laughter and loud cheers]. Because the endowment of the Protestant church in Ireland has produced so much irritation there, the ministers of state are obliged to offer some little endowment to the Roman Catholic church there. "There is something for you—a message of peace—an olive branch—a conciliation [cheers]. The Irish church has its hundreds of thousands, but there is thirty thousand for you. It is only a little, but it is a token that you shall have more by-and-by, only be quiet." The state church is the root of the whole business. It is very well known that this is not to be the last of the endowments of Romanism; it is an ingenious, crafty, nice beginning, but statesmen have told us that it must and ought to lead to the endowment of the Roman Catholic clergy themselves. Then, what is to be said and done? We are not to confine our hostility to the measure for the endowment of Maynooth. If we can, and I am afraid we cannot, get rid of this measure, should we see Sir Robert Peel and the government abandon it, we still should have our work to do. The very thing which is the seed, and origin, and life of this measure, will remain in all its power; and if we prevent the upas-tree of the establishment putting forth this branch, we shall leave the stem and the root in all their energy, and there will be an attempt to send out branches every year, which will give us our work to do over again [hear, hear]. We must take this occasion, therefore, to direct our energies with zeal and determination towards obtaining a separation of church and state [cheers]. If the Dissenters were to let this opportunity pass without girding on their armour afresh, they would be guilty of a greater folly and dereliction of duty than I, for one, could venture to ascribe to them. As the occasion summons us to this war, we must keep the vantage ground on which the war is to be carried on [cheers]. Religious establishments of Christianity had their origin, I doubt not, in a sense of the truth and value of Christianity, and a desire to help it. Religious establishments may all of them have had their origin, perhaps, in a sense of the truth, or value, or importance, of a particular system which they were to sustain, so that the theory of an establishment which has been brought before us is, that the state should uphold religious truth [cheers]. There should not be such an amount of influence exerted as the state has at its command except for truth. That is the theory of an establishment, but now that is altogether thrown overboard. There is the power of the state employed, not simply to uphold the truth, but equally to uphold error; to uphold certain kinds of religion, not because they are deemed to be true, but because the views are held by parties in the community large enough to make it necessary to please them. It is an undisputed avowal that religion is now used as an implement of state policy, that it is not done for the sake of religion, but because religion has an influence over masses of the people, and therefore the state must patronise them all, that the entire community may be governed in peace. On the principle to which I have referred, there have been many friends of religious establishments before, that will now be opposed to them. The Noels, the Stowells, the Bickersteths, have said, that if the state is equally to uphold truth and error, then

they would rather that the state should let religion alone [cheers]. We shall have the ranks of the Anti-state-church Association replenished by members of the church of England [cheers]. If there be any circumstance which tends to detach from the body maintaining religious establishments, such men as those I have named, and the large class of men through the country with whom they may be identified, a great inroad upon the strength of such establishments, I maintain, will be made. It is not by the ambitious, the artful, the unprincipled, that a great national institution can be kept up; the strength of it lies in the better, the more enlightened part of the community. If we can only reduce the supporters of state establishments to the awkward squad of the ambitious, we shall weaken them, and they will tumble down by their own weight [cheers]. I think the attempt to shore up the old buildings of religious establishments, will make them totter to their fall, and they will present an object of assault more open to appliances made for their destruction than they have ever done before. Strengthened, in some measure, for a time they may be, by obtaining fresh patronage from those who get little bits of endowment [laughter]; but to a very small extent, as compared with the united opposition raised to them, and the earnest zeal which shall be exerted for their overthrow, to come some time, whether sooner or later, from the movement now in progress. This cause is not to go back. It is, like the little snow ball, to increase year after year, and generation after generation; and it shall increase till we, or our children, strike the last blow with the axe we now raise up against this deadly and mischievous tree [loud cheers].

Mr PRUST, of Northampton, then addressed the meeting from the back of the hall, in so low a tone that it was frequently difficult to catch his precise remarks. We understood him to say, I think there are some advantages to be gained from joining with those with whom we may not sympathise on other subjects. We may direct our united energies to the defeat of their measures. At the same time, I think it important, as Dissenters, to take the opportunity of fully and clearly understanding on what principles our opposition is based. I said to a clergyman in my own neighbourhood, that I would adopt any course he might pursue to overthrow this measure; but that I was prepared to go further than he would do. I do not know that it should be regarded as a compromise to join with those who entertain such views as the gentleman to whom I referred. It seems to me imperative that the Dissenting community should place before the country, and before their fellow-subjects in Ireland, a full statement of the grounds on which they rest their opposition. I have feared that there was some danger lest it should be supposed, that if Dissenters did not sympathise with Popery, yet they were guilty of seditious latitudinarianism on that subject. I think that, as religious men, it is our duty to speak strongly, and with all the power that the time may require, on the doctrinal errors of the church of Rome [hear, hear]. I think the resolutions to-day have been so framed as to preclude much misapprehension, and the opposition I feel to the doctrinal errors of Popery, only renders me the more concerned that we should take the ground we are now taking. I was last year in Geneva, and there the numerical majority has become Catholic. It is supposed, that in the course of ten or twenty years the majority will be decidedly on the side of Popery [cheers]. That very subject is opening the eyes of those who have been the firmest adherents to establishments, to see the real state of misery that must result from them, and many are directing their energies to the maintenance of what may be regarded as truth. It is possible that the Catholic church, if not established in Ireland, will receive large subsidies. It is, therefore, most important to state the objection which, on every ground, we entertain to the connexion between church and state. I think that this movement will tend to enlighten many devout churchmen on this matter. I have heard many clergymen of veracity state that sooner than take the latitudinarian ground that statesmen are now doing, they would adopt the voluntary principle. The old ground is abandoned. For instance, the allusion to a father and his family. The notion that it is the duty of government to protect religion, just as a father would watch over his family, seems to be altogether denounced. Now we are practically carrying out the principle that, every form of error, however gross, if it be maintained by a sufficient number of the community, is to receive artificial strength from a public fund. I believe that there are many who are brought to see that, if we are thus reduced, we must adhere to the constitution of things laid down in the New Testament, and make the church of Christ subsist on the arm of Omnipotence [cheers].

The resolution was then put and carried.

The committee appointed to draw up the petition then returned. Mr CONDER read that document, which, after the suggestion of some verbal amendments, was adopted amidst loud cheers. It was as follows:—

"To the Hon. the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled—

"The petition of the undersigned Deputies and Ministers, being Protestant Dissenters of different denominations, from various parts of Great Britain and Ireland, convened in London, for the purpose of opposing the endowment of Maynooth college, and all other state endowments of religion,

"Sheweth—

"That your petitioners view, with serious apprehension and unqualified disapproval, the bill for the permanent endowment of Maynooth college, recently submitted to parliament by her Majesty's government, and now proposed for a third reading in the House of Commons.

"That, differing widely, as your petitioners are well known to do, in religious faith and worship from those of their fellow subjects whom this measure is professedly framed to conciliate; and attaching to such difference the highest importance, they feel it the more incumbent upon them to declare, that they would not on this account withhold from others a single advantage which they would justly claim or accept for themselves.

"That, looking to the circumstances which appear to have suggested the measure, and to the avowed opinion of many of its warmest supporters, they are compelled to regard it as a cautious but deliberate approach towards the establishment of the Roman Catholic church in Ireland.

"That, in the judgment of your petitioners, the alliance of the civil power with any form of ecclesiastical polity, and as the fruit of such alliance, the support, by compulsory exactions of religious teachers, of any denomination, are dangerous to the liberty of the subject, subversive of the rights of conscience, prejudicial to the cause of Christianity, and offensive to God.

"That, under this conviction, your petitioners record their solemn protest against the Protestant church establishment already existing in these realms, as well as against every grant of public money for ecclesiastical purposes; and that, seeing in the Maynooth College bill a further extension of a principle which your petitioners hold to be detrimental to the best interests of the empire, they humbly pray your honourable House not to pass such bill into a law.

"And your petitioners will ever pray."

JOSIAH CONDER, Esq., then moved the adoption of the following resolution:—

"That this Conference views with deep regret and apprehension the indifference shown by members of the Commons' House to the petitions of the people against the Maynooth Endowment bill, and regard such indifference as subversive of the representative system, and a clear indication of the want of harmony between the members of that House and the British people. That they further regard the ignorance displayed of the nature of religious liberty, and the violence done to religious conviction, by the votes given; as disqualifying many members from being returned as the future representatives of Protestant Dissenters; and distinctly and earnestly calls upon the Dissenting constituencies of the empire to refuse to all such their electoral support."

I should be very sorry that any delegate should leave London without an opportunity of exchanging his sentiments with others, upon this, the most important subject that can be brought before the Conference. I hope that the resolution will be amply discussed. The Business Committee will be thankful to receive practical suggestions from our friends in the country. I wish I could ascertain to what extent this meeting consists, not merely of Protestant Dissenters, but the most effective and working portion of the borough constituents of England and Wales. We, as Protestant Dissenters, have never yet ascertained our own strength, because we have never yet drawn it forth. We are thought, in a certain house, to have immensely over-rated ourselves, and this language has become so familiar by being repeated by members of the House of Commons, that it is of the utmost importance that we should disabuse them on this point. In what way we should carry this resolution into operation at the next election—an event which may take us by surprise before we are prepared for it—in what way we should not only show our principles, but exhibit our strength, requires much consultation and conference; and I hope that the assembly will be much occupied with the consideration of this subject.

Mr McKERROW of Manchester, said: I do not hesitate to come forward, and second the resolution submitted to your notice. Mr Harbottle has stated that he is a delegate from Manchester and the neighbourhood; and I may refer to the meeting to which allusion has been made by him. The meeting took place in the year 1834, shortly after the Reform bill was passed; and we dissenters thought the time had then come, when it behoved us to move for the separation of church and state. That principle we have never lost sight of, through good report and through bad report. In Manchester, we have always advocated the doctrine of the entire spirituality of the kingdom of Christ [cheers]. We consider that all ecclesiastical establishments are at variance with the genius of the gospel, with the rights of man, and injurious to the power and progress of divine truth; and we thought it was time to advocate the right principle [cheers]. We have uniformly refused,—I speak, at least, of a party with whom I and my congregation have been associated—to spend our time and money about trifling matters that have excited so much interest among the Dissenters. We sent our delegates, and instructed them to co-operate with the London Dissenters, upon no other principle than that of an agitation for the separation of the church from the state. That principle was agreed to; but shortly after our representatives returned, we were given to understand that the London Dissenters were not prepared for that movement, and we lost confidence in our London friends at that time [hear, hear]. We thought they were too near the source of parliamentary influence [laughter and cheers]. We thought their patriotism sometimes evaporated in consequence of a smile from Lord John this [laughter]; and certainly we of Manchester took no interest in those particular societies, formed some years ago but which, I suppose, are now defunct, and have not accomplished any particular object. We were delighted when we heard that our London friends had taken up the question of the separation of church and state; and we were, to a large extent, in Manchester, interested in the Anti-state-church Conference [loud cheers]. It is true, that on particular grounds, to which it is not necessary that I should allude, we have not, as yet, done much on behalf of that association; but I will tell you why—it is because we wished to test the spirit of our London friends [cheers]. Now we are satisfied that you are sincere and earnest; and I shall retire from the meeting with a full determination to agitate, to the utmost

extent of my power, for the accomplishment of the great object we have in view—an object which, if accomplished, will free us from all those excitements which are produced by the attacks that have been occasionally made upon the rights and interests of civil and religious liberty. I may state, that in Manchester, in all our great meetings in reference to the Education bill introduced some time ago, the people responded most enthusiastically to every statement that was presented to them in reference to the separation of church and state. That was the ground of our agitation; and, I do think, the only tenable ground we have, in reference to our present movement, is that which arises from our opposition to all endowments—that which arises from the principle that no government ought to determine what is truth, or to endow any particular form or system of religious opinions [cheers]. In reference to this particular department of the subject, I may be permitted to state, that I believe the friends I represent are determined to support no member of parliament who violates the rights of conscience [cheers]. I have been a free-trader; I have worked in conjunction with Mr Cobden and Mr Milner Gibson, but although I highly estimate the character of those gentlemen, I am ready to say that I will not support a single individual belonging to the free-trade party who interferes with those dearest of rights—the rights of conscience [immense cheering]. I think that in this matter we should adhere to principle, and principle only. We have been told that we shall do a great deal of injury. There may be some injury arising, apparently or immediately, in particular parts of the country, in consequence of the return of particular persons whom we would not like to see in parliament; but I am satisfied that if an evil of this kind should display itself, a vast amount of good will, ere long, be found to follow. It will teach our representatives that we are not to be trifled with, that we are in earnest, that we are not to be cajoled when a general election comes on—that we are not to be committed to this man, as a free-trader, and the other as an anti-slavery man. I am satisfied that till we look to principle, and principle alone—that until we come to the principles, not of this day, or that day, of this movement, or that movement, but to correct principles, for all time, we never shall be delivered from those evils, under the influence of which our country has so long groaned [hear, hear]. One generation cometh, and another goeth, but great principles ever live, the word of God abideth for ever; and I am prepared, therefore, to take all the consequences. I believe that a large number of the most influential of the constituency of Manchester will not support a single representative, either Mr Phillips or Mr Gibson, although we hold much in common with them, who gives his vote on behalf of this iniquitous Maynooth bill [loud cheers].

Mr HODGKINS, of Belfast, said: I am happy that the meeting has taken this turn. I am here to represent my church and congregation. I am happy to find that the Dissenters of the United Kingdom are taking their present stand; but I wish it to be understood that they are not going before the little band in Belfast, whom I represent [hear, hear]. In Belfast we wanted to have a general meeting of the clergy and others, and I went to see what kind of a meeting we could get up; but the fact is, so many are standing aside from the Maynooth question, that we could not procure a meeting. I signed a petition, however, together with several respectable clergymen, against the Maynooth bill; and then I called a meeting of my own church and congregation, at which a series of resolutions was passed. The speaker then read the resolutions, and went on to observe—We could not, in Belfast, join what is called the "no-popery" cry. We there felt that, as loyal subjects of the Crown, the Roman Catholics of Ireland had as good a right to endowment as any other parties; and my constituency said, "You must go to London and represent us." Hence I am here before you [cheers]. A word or two as to one of our representatives—I refer to Mr Ross. He is called the whig representative for Belfast; and I have had the pleasure of seeing him since I came to town. In presenting our petition to the House of Commons, he said he agreed with the principle of it, and the principle of that petition was against all endowments of religion; yet he has supported the second, and he says he will support the third, reading of the bill [laughter]. But those connected with my congregation, and myself, have determined that, if he does, we will not support him. I am glad that the present meeting has been convened. We are prepared to do for you all we can. We oppose all endowments of religion, not because we refuse to pay the paltry sum that is given for the support of a particular system, but because we believe the endowment of religion is the great obstacle to the free progress of the gospel throughout the length and breadth of the land. While we have state establishments and the *regium donum*, the gospel will not have free and unrestricted sway [cheers]. If, as Protestant Dissenters, you had thought of Ireland long since in the spirit of the gospel, you would not have had to meet as you do this day; but we are glad to see you coming forward at the eleventh hour to our help. I hope you will stand by us, and that you will never leave us till all endowments of religion are brought down, and the headship of Christ is maintained over the length and breadth of my native isle [loud cheers].

Mr S. NICHOLSON, of Plymouth, stated that a letter had been written to Lord Ebrington, by the United Evangelical Association in Plymouth, on the subject now under discussion, in which they had, as explicitly as they could, avowed the voluntary principle. He then read his lordship's reply, in which his lordship stated his determination to support the

grant to Maynooth, assigning, as one reason for pursuing that course, the grant which had been made to, and accepted by, the British and Foreign School Society, on the ground that government were not to interfere with the institution.

Mr EDWARD MIALl then stood forward amidst loud cheers; on the subsidence of which, he said: I simply rise to call back your attention to the very important proposition contained in the resolution before you. It is one upon which I am sure the Committee, who have arranged the business of this Conference, would be glad to obtain the sentiments, as far as possible, of all who are present. You pledge yourselves, by this resolution, to withhold your vote from any member of parliament who is ignorant of the nature of religious liberty. Now, the question which we wish to ascertain is this, whether you will pledge yourselves practically before the world, and will carry out that pledge in your future electoral exertions, to refuse your vote to all such as have proved themselves incompetent to understand the great question of religious liberty [cheers]. It is one thing for us to pass a resolution in conference; it is another, and it is a far more important, thing to withstand all those blandishments and solicitations which will be presented by the liberal politicians of the day, to forego the resolution to which you pledge yourselves in this assembly. I ask you, therefore, are you prepared to take your electoral stand upon the one great principle of no endowment of religious creeds [cheers]? I rejoice to believe, from the responses which I have heard given to the sentiments uttered this morning, that such is the deliberate opinion of this assembly, and that you will come to a unanimous vote upon this occasion. I rejoice to believe that, at all events, the great majority of Dissenters are prepared now to identify an understanding and an appreciation of the great principle we now profess, with all liberal principles whatever, and to come to the conclusion that there can be no real understanding of civil liberty unless there be a complete intelligent understanding likewise of the principles of religious liberty [cheers]. I feel persuaded, whatever may be the particular topics and crotchets on which members of parliament may commit themselves—topics and crotchets in which, in some sense, we naturally sympathise with them—that it is impossible for them constantly and intelligently to put forward those liberal notions, unless they are grounded upon the broad principle of justice to all men in relation to government, and freedom to all men in relation to God [cheers]. I would not trust any member, be his professions what they may [hear, hear]. I would not trust any man as our representative in parliament, however well he might understand the slavery or the free trade question, or this and the other question that may be brought before parliament—I would not trust him as an intelligent appreciator of civil liberty, unless, at the same time, he fully and distinctly recognised the broad principle that every man is at liberty to worship God according to the dictates of his conscience; and that it is impious, an intrusion upon the rights of the subject, and an invasion of the prerogatives of God, for the civil magistrate to step in between man and man, and in any way touch him in his relation to his Maker [cheers]. I rejoice to see that the dissenting community generally are coming very rapidly up to my mark [loud applause]. I advocated this intolerant dogma two or three ago amid the vituperations of some portion, at least, of the dissenting press. I advocated that it was safest for us, in our electoral movements, to take our stand firmly upon some great and intelligible principle, and to move from that at the solicitation of no party whatever [cheers]. We may lose in the first instance, but we shall gain by losing. What, for instance, have we achieved by returning so large a portion of the liberal party, as it is now called, to the House of Commons? What one great question have they tended to settle, during the present or the past session of the existing parliament? We have been kept by their influence just a little ahead of torism, and there we shall be kept as long as we come to our leaders and our representatives. They will take care never to conduct us so far as to endanger those institutions which are bound up with all the interests of aristocracy. They will take care, in all their parliamentary movements, to cast a slur and a stigma, as far as possible, upon the principles that we profess; and if ever we are to be respected by the legislature of the land, we must learn to respect ourselves [loud cheers]. We must learn to respect our principles, and we must show to the whole world that the little minor party questions about which members of parliament usually struggle, are matters of small concern to us, whichever way they may be settled, in comparison with the great question to which we pledge the devotion of our lives—the separation of church and state [cheers]. Now we wish to ascertain whether such are the opinions of this Conference; and if such be the deliberate opinions of the Conference, as expressed in this resolution, then I am bound to inform you that there are other practical resolutions which will follow, and which, I trust, will in some measure put you in the way of carrying out your resolution. I only hope that the deliberations of this Conference will constitute the opening of a new epoch in the treatment of our ecclesiastical questions. For my own part, I breathe a most delightful atmosphere. I have hitherto, in some measure, laboured up hill [hear, hear]. I feel now that we may labour together, earnestly and cordially; and I would be amongst the first to stretch out my hand of cordial friendship to those brethren who have lingered rather behind, and whom I have sometimes whipped [laughter and loud cheers]. I would be amongst the first to hold out my hand and say,

Come along, brother, and we will go now together [cheers].

Dr HALLEY stood forward, and said: Mr Conder says, Tell us what you mean to do. I do not know what we are going to do [laughter]. I stand here, I suppose, to support the resolution. Mr Conder says, What at the next election? He must be a bold man who will say what Manchester will do at the next election. The Anti-corn-law League think that they can do what they like with Manchester and South Lancashire, but that will depend a good deal upon the Dissenters, and upon the state of feeling at the time. Mr Miall has told you that the Dissenters are coming up to his mark; and, when you have got to his, I hope you will come on as far as mine. I hold that to call a Catholic by a name he does not like is as bad as to take money out of his pocket. My strong feeling in a meeting of this kind is this—Let those who are without sin cast the first stone [cheers]. I thought that I was to speak on the *regium donum* if I spoke at all. I am anxious that Protestant Dissenters should be free from endowments; and then with some effect, but not till then, they may attack other people [hear, hear]. There is no denomination, I believe, perfectly free, except the Friends [cheers]. For the Dissenting colleges to send men to the London University, and to take money out of the state for its support, is, I hold, every whit as bad as granting money to Maynooth. I do not wonder at the views of Lord Ebrington and other whigs. A Dissenting minister was appointed army chaplain [laughter], and he went to Norfolk Island. He there began to talk about the voluntary principle, and as it was thought that he was not quite right, he was put into irons [laughter]; and he is at this moment, I believe, on half-pay. Let us have no connexion with endowments, let us have clean hands, and then we can look the world in the face. Let us stand by these momentous principles, and never allow them to be infringed by ourselves. I hope this question will teach Dissenters their own principles, as well as teach the members of the church of England. As to the subject of the resolution, I can only say, that the feeling among Dissenters in Manchester is not so strong and not so distinct as it ought to be. There are leading Dissenters there who have signed petitions in favour of the grant [loud cries of "Hear, hear"].

Mr HENRY VINCENT said: I would have been the last man to obtrude myself on your attention for a single moment, had it not been for the very strong expression of opinion that I have received from my constituents on the subject of this resolution. I regard this resolution as the touchstone of your sincerity, because it is utterly impossible that the Dissenters of England can maintain the position which their religion and importance entitle them to occupy, unless they disavow themselves at once and for ever from those—[cheers, in which the conclusion of the sentence was lost]. What have been the sentiments expressed in parliament on the Maynooth grant? Have we not heard the men to whom we have been accustomed to look up as exemplars on political questions, pouring the most profound contempt on that voluntary principle which you have professed to maintain? Has it not been said that this opposition to the grant to Maynooth is the mere excitement of the moment—that it will subside—that nothing practical will come out of it?—and this because they believe that petty questions will be more powerful than your deep-rooted conscientious determinations [hear, hear]? I feel too much interest in the cause you have met to-day to uphold to be silent on a question like this. I speak not only on behalf of those with whom I have the honour to act, but being intimately conversant with the state of mind among the intelligent operatives of this country, and amongst a large portion of the more intelligent and influential of our borough constituency, I will pledge my veracity that there is no principle that will give you more power at the next election, nothing that will infuse more enthusiasm into the various ranks of reformers amongst us, than the convictions that the dissenters of England have not lost the spirit of their forefathers [cheers]. The member for London will care little about this assembly of learned Dissenting divines, if you tell him that you prefer his politics above those of Sir Robert Peel, and that you are disposed to surrender, in a gentlemanly spirit, all the minor questions connected with religious politics, in order to throw out the Tories and put in the whigs [hear, hear]. There is a bane in this that I have not language sufficiently strong to condemn. This noble resolution, that has been supported with so much power by my friend Mr Miall, and which was seconded with so much zeal by my respected friend Mr McKerrow, will be a death-knell to every parliamentary sophistry, if you will act upon it in the spirit of generosity, telling the middle and working classes that, in your struggle for religious rights, you have respect to the question of civil freedom, and that you are determined, as far as your influence goes, that you will return no men to parliament but those prepared to vindicate your noble principles. On behalf of the constituency that has done me the honour of delegating me to this assembly, I beg to give my hearty adhesion to the resolution now before you, and to call upon every Dissenter to be alive to those insidious influences that will ever be at work to destroy his religious liberties. It is not by the breath of aristocracy, it is not even by the authority of parliament, that nations live, but it is by putting your faith in the arm of Divine Providence—by doing your duty, and leaving the results to him [cheers].

It was then agreed that the further discussion of this question should be deferred till the following morning, and the meeting then adjourned.

PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE.

Rev. J. Alexander, Norwich
Rev. J. Bakewell, London
Rev. R. S. Bayley, Sheffield
Rev. J. Bennett, D.D., London
R. Bealey, Esq., Holloway
Rev. J. Burnet, Camberwell
Rev. J. Campbell, D.D., London
Rev. J. R. Campbell, M.A., Edinburgh
Rev. J. Carlile, Hackney
John Childs, Esq., Bungay
Josiah Conder, Esq., London
Rev. F. A. Cox, D.D., L.L.D., Hackney
Rev. Dr Davies, Stepney
Rev. R. Eckett, London
Rev. W. Forster, Highgate
Rev. S. Green, Walworth
Rev. R. Halley, D.D., Manchester
J. M. Hare, Esq., Hackney
Rev. T. Horton, Devonport
St George D'Arcy Irvine, Esq., London
Rev. John Jefferson, Stoke Newington
Rev. T. W. Jenkyn, D.D., London
Rev. Eliezer Jones, Plymouth
Edward Miall, Esq., London
Rev. J. Morison, D.D., Brompton
Rev. Caleb Morris, London
Rev. J. P. Mursell, Leicester
Rev. E. Pearson, London
Dr Thomas Price, London
Rev. Henry Richard, London
Rev. S. Roberts, Llanbrynmair
Rev. J. Robertson, Edinburgh
Rev. J. Pye Smith, D.D., L.L.D., Hackney
Rev. E. Steane, D.D., Camberwell
Rev. D. Rhys Stephen, Newport
Rev. J. Stephenson, M.A., London
Rev. C. Stovel, London

LIST OF DELEGATES.

Aberdeen, Blackfriars street—Dr Cox and Rev. W. Forster
Aberdeen—(Baptist) Mr J. Stewart
Aberdeen—R. Wallace, Esq., and G. Knox, Esq.
Ashwell, Herts—Rev. D. Richardson
Ashford—Dr Price
Ashton—Mr W. Tweedale
Amersham—Wm Morten, Esq., Rev. W. Salter
Andover—Mr W. K. Fletcher
Avening—Rev. T. F. Newman and J. Underhill, Esq.
Accrington—Rev. H. Lings
Airedale College—J. Dewhurst, Esq.
Bath—(Baptist) Rev. W. Norton and Mr G. Lush.
Baddow, Essex—Rev. S. Morell and Mr G. Taylor
Barnet—(Independent) Rev. A. Stewart, Mr W. Brunt, and Mr S. Byford
Basford—Mr S. J. Robinson and Mr R. Birkin
Ballycraiggy, Ireland—Rev. Alex. Bell
Belfast—(Congregational) Rev. J. Hodgins
Bedworth—(Independent) Rev. J. P. Mursell
Birmingham—(Midland Baptist Association, 23 churches, 4,000 members) Rev. T. Morgan, Rev. G. Dawson, Rev. T. H. Morgan, Geo. Edmonds, Esq.
Birmingham—(General Baptist) Rev. G. Cheate
Birmingham (public meeting)—Rev. G. Dawson and Mr J. H. Wilson
Bognor—(Independent) F. and A. Cave, Esqrs
Bow—Messrs J. and R. Freeman
Bowdon, Dissenters of—T. Harbottle, Esq.
Bradfield and North Walsham—(Independent) Mr James Browne
Broadstairs—Messrs N. Bradley and T. Hodgman
Broseley, Salop—Rev. S. Newth, M.A.
Buckingham—(Baptist) W. D. Harris, Esq.
Buckley, Long—(Baptist) Rev. A. Burdett
Burton Latimer—W. Abbott, Esq.
Bassingbourne, Cambridge—Rev. J. Harsant, Mr J. Clear, and Mr S. Hopkins
Brill—Mr T. Barry
Brentford—(Independent) Rev. W. Yonge, Mr Birkhead, and Mr W. Bontems
Brentford, New—Rev. T. Smith, Messrs C. Watkins and C. Murphy
Belton, Rutland—Rev. H. Whittock
Brixham—(Baptist) Rev. P. Anstie
Beulah, Montgomery—J. Jones, Esq., and Mr J. A. Miles
Bolton—Mr Adam Ferguson
Boston—(Religious Liberty Society), Dr Thomas Price and J. M. Webb, Esq.
Boxmoor—Rev. B. P. Pratten
Brompton, Kent—(Wesleyan Association) Rev. R. Abercrombie, Mr T. Stigant, Mr T. Nicholson
Bristol, Counterslip—Rev. T. Winter, John Shoard, Esq., J. H. Cuzner, Esq.
Bristol Association—Rev. T. Winter, Rev. T. F. Newman, J. Shoard, Esq., J. Underhill, Esq.
Bristol, Newfoundland street—Rev. Alfred Stone
Bristol (public meeting)—Mr R. Norris
Bristol—Rev. R. S. May and Mr W. Wills
Blaby, Leicester—Rev. J. Barnett
Bwlchy Hydd, Montgomeryshire—Rev. J. Carlile, Mr Kingsley, and Mr Shaw
Blackburn—Mr Dickson and Mr Fish
Blackburn—(Presbyterian) Mr J. Boyle
Blackburn—(Baptist) Mr Miles Barron
Bocking—Rev. T. Craig
Bicester—Rev. W. Ferguson
Bromley, Kent—Mr Verrall
Bromyard—Rev. D. Owen
Bradford, Yorkshire—Rev. T. Pottinger and Mr W. Stead
Bramley Lane—Mr Joseph Stocks
Bungay (Anti-state-church Association)—Mr J. Childs
Brychege, Brecon—Rev. J. D. Williams, Rev. Morgan Williams
Bugbrooke—Rev. J. Larwill and Mr James Daniell
Beaminster—Rev. Dr Bennett
Boston—Mr W. Perks
Beaulieu, Southampton—Rev. J. Burt
Bradnich—Mr T. Peatress
Bradford—Mr W. Byles and Mr P. Heron
Bowden, Altringham—Mr Harbottle
Bridlington—Mr W. Nash
Bridgewater—Rev. J. Bishop
Boscastle—Mr Bulkin
Blandford—Rev. W. Bowes
Barnard Castle—Mr F. Wimpston
Bury—Rev. B. Nightingale
Brigg—Mr D. Manby
Camberwell—(Baptist) Rev. Dr Steane, Charles Jones, Esq., S. Jackson, Esq.
Carmarthen—(Tabernacle) George Thompson, Esq.
Castle-Donington—W. Edwards, Esq.
Castle Donington—Mr W. E. Dawes and Mr J. C. Williams
Chatham—(Baptist) Mr J. F. Davison and Mr A. A. Trew
Chatham—(Enon) Rev. A. Jones
Chatham—(Providence chapel) Rev. A. Jones, Mr Hickson, and Mr W. Cooper
Chatham, Union street—Mr S. Lampard
Chatham (Independent)—Mr Ross and Mr Shrewsbury
Chatham (General Baptist)—Mr J. C. Means and Mr Frew
Colchester—(Independent) Rev. T. W. Davids, G. Ward, Esq., J. Chaplin, Esq.
Colchester, West Mersea—Rev. J. B. Harvey
Colchester—Mr T. Barrett
Chard—J. Brown, Esq.
Chesham—
Coggeshall—Mr S. Unwin
Cossey, Norfolk—Simon Wilken, Esq.
Chelsea—Rev. E. Archer, Mr Hasall, and Mr Kealey
Canterbury—(Baptist) Rev. W. Davies
Cherterton—Mr W. Johnson
Coventry—Rev. J. Sibree and Rev. J. Watts
Coventry, Whitefriars lane—Messrs W. Osborn and J. Levett
Carnarvon—Rev. E. Roberts
Cleford—Mr Thos Batten
Clestone—Rev. T. Gough
Cardigan—Rev. D. Davies
Croydon—Rev. J. Stallybrass and Rev. W. Campbell
Devonport—Rev. T. Horton and Rev. E. Jones
Devonport (Independent)—Rev. D. Jones
Dunstable—Mr R. Gutteridge
Denton, Suffolk—Mr Allan Davis
Denton—Mr J. M. Webb
Dudley—Mr England, and Mr R. Rodgers
Derby, Victoria street—Mr T. Robinson
Derby—Mr Wilmshurst
Diss—Mr F. Cotton, jun., and Mr Crellin
Darlington—(Wesleyan association) Mr E. Kipling, Mr B. Teasdale, and Mr John Marshall
Dartford—Rev. J. S. Cuzner
Dorchester—Rev. J. W. Pope
Deptford—Rev. J. Pulling and Mr Rudhall
Durham—Rev. R. Penman
Darwin—Mr Holland
Ealing—Rev. G. Adeney, Mr J. F. Bontems, and Mr Henry Vincent
Enfield—Rev. S. A. Davies, and J. Dixon, Esq.
Earl's Barton—Rev. T. Phillips
Exeter (Baptist)—Mr Beale and Mr Blond
Emsworth—Mr J. Stabb and Mr Harrison
Ebling—Mr E. Swain
East Grinstead—Rev. W. Roomson
Farsley, Yorkshire—Mr D. Hainsworth
Falkirk, North Britain—Mr J. Wilson, and Mr J. Smith
Felstead—Rev. J. Mark
Ffynnon Henry, Carmarthenshire—Mr J. Meen
Forest Row, Sussex—Mr J. Edger
Fleet, Long Sutton—R. Parr, Esq., and Mr H. Flower
Forton, Hants—Mr J. Wilson
Finchdean, Hants—Rev. A. Tilby
Farrington—Rev. J. M. Strongman
Festiniog—Rev. B. Fairclough
Four Elms—Rev. J. Chamberlain
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Gloucester Association—Rev. W. Cross, Messrs Nicholson and Thomas
Gloucester—Rev. G. W. Rodway
Greenwich—Rev. H. B. Jeala
Gosport—Mr F. Wilson
Gorleston—Mr S. Farr
Grimsden, Little—(Baptist) D'Arcy Irvine, Esq.
Glastonbury—Mr Cockshaw
Glasgow—Rev. B. Grant and Mr W. P. Paton
Gravesend—Rev. E. S. Pryce, Mr Arnold
Great Missenden—Rev. D. Marsh and Mr B. Payne
Highgate—(Congregationalist) Rev. W. Forster, Rev. T. Chipperfield, and Mr G. Clerk
Hackney—(Baptist) Rev. F. A. Cox, D.D., J. M. Hare, Esq., and J. J. Luntley, Esq.
Hackney, Wells street—Rev. J. Carlile, D'Arcy Irvine, Esq., and Rev. J. Dickinson, M.A.
Henfield—Rev. J. Hall, and Mr J. Woolger
Haverfordwest—(Baptist) John Scoble, Esq.
Hawick—(Congregationalist) W. Nixon, Esq., and W. and G. Wilson, Esqs
Homerton—(Baptist) Rev. D. Curtis, J. Ramsey, Esq., and Mr W. Dennett
Hadleigh—Rev. R. Skinner, Mr J. D. Piper, and Mr Allen
Heywood—Rev. R. Chester, Rev. W. Jackson, Mr F. Nield, Rev. J. Harrison
Heywood, Mr T. Nield, Rev. J. Harrison, Rev. R. Chester, Rev. W. Jackson
Houghton, Hurst, and Hartford, Hunts—Rev. James Harcourt and Mr Tebbutt
Hockliffe—Mr Lewis Moinier
Halifax, Bramley lane—Titus Salt, Esq., and Mr Jos. Stocks
Halifax—Rev. S. Whitewood, H. Clayton, Esq.
Halifax—Rev. A. Ewing
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Haverfordwest (Welsh Calvinists)—Rev. E. Davies
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Hugglescote—Rev. J. Burns
Harrington—Mr Underwood
Hirwaia (Glamorgan)—Rev. W. Williams and Mr W. Jones
Hatcham—Mr Pond and Mr Eyre
Hanover, Monmouth—Rev. J. D. Williams and Rev. J. Morris
Hayes—Rev. W. Horsell
Holloway—Rev. A. J. Morris
Holm (Orkney)—Rev. P. Buchan
Halesworth—Rev. G. L. Smith
Harlow—Rev. J. Finch
Halstead—Rev. E. Prout
Huddersfield—Rev. J. Bramwell
High Wycombe—Rev. F. Hayden
Islington green—Rev. J. J. Brown, Mr G. B. Woolley, and Mr Braden
Islington—(Dissenting body) Mr Brooks and Mr Riddell
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Ipswich, Turret green—Mr G. Bayley, Mr G. Bayley, jun., Mr W. Bayley, and Rev. J. Sprigg
Ipswich, Nicholas chapel—Rev. J. Whitby and Mr D. Browning
Ireland (Congregational Union of)—Rev. J. Carlile and D'Arcy Irvine, Esq.
Isleham—Mr E. C. Cooler and Mr Oxbrow
Kettering—Rev. T. Toller and Mr Falkner
Keysoe—Rev. T. Gate
Kettering (Baptist)—Mr G. Timms and Mr Wallis
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Kingston-on-Hull—Mr J. Hasler
Kimbolton—Rev. J. Hemming and W. Edwards, Esq.
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Kirkwin, Merthyr Tydfil—Mr Thomas Williams
Kingsthorpe—Mr Ashmead
Kibworth—Rev. F. Islip
Kelvedon—Mr Causely
Leek—Rev. R. Goshawk and Mr J. Brough
Leicester, Gallowtree gate—Mr W. M'Alpin and Mr Joshua Shenton
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Leicester—(Wesleyan Association) Rev. R. Eckett
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Lincoln—Mr Parr
Londonderry—Rev. J. Carlile, Rev. J. Lyon
Loughton—Mr J. Gould and Mr J. Gingell
Langindern, Carmarthenshire—Mr W. Allam
Lydney, Gloucestershire—T. Nicholson, Esq.
Lymington (Independent)—R. Sharp, Esq.
Leeds—Mr W. H. Glover and Mr S. Johnson
Lancashire and Cheshire Baptist Association—J. Cheetham, Esq.
Linton, New—Mr A. Gadliffe
Landport—Mr W. Stock
Lowestoft—Mr J. Morris
Liverpool—(Complete Suffrage Association) Mr C. E. Rawlins
Lutterworth—Rev. J. Hopwood, Mr Hopwood
Leatherhead—Rev. F. Perkins
Leek and Sandbach—Mr Thomas Burgess
Loughton—Rev. S. Brawn
Loughborough—Rev. C. Stamford
Llanbrynmair—D. Edwards, Esq.
Little Waltham—Mr Wells
London, Little, Staffordshire—Rev. E. Jones
London: Bishopsgate—Rev. H. Townley
Craven chapel—Messrs W. Rouse and J. Russell
Eagle street—Rev. R. W. Overbury, J. Penny, Esq., and J. Merritt, Esq.
Brick lane—Mr W. Clark and Mr P. Minton
Queen street, Ratcliffe—H. Hooper, Esq., Mr Bennett, Mr Nathan, Mr Joscelyne, and Mr C. Bennett
Shoreditch—Rev. W. Miall, Mr W. Cubitt, and Mr W. Parnell
Beulah, Commercial road—Mr T. W. Dunch and Mr E. Young
West street, Walworth—J. Pratt, Esq.
New Park street—J. Low, Esq., and M. Moore, Esq.
Devonshire square—Rev. J. H. Hinton, Mr J. Dennis, and Mr G. Adcock
Romney street, Westminster—Rev. E. Hammond, Mr J. Jay, and Mr T. Price
Soho, Oxford street—Mr R. T. Taylor
Harvey street, Hoxton—Mr R. Barnett, and Mr W. Wood
Dockhead—Dr Epps, and Mr T. Dick
Southwark Anti-Maynooth Committee—D. W. Wire,

Esq., J. Brown, Esq., Mr T. M. Green, Mr D. Pratt.
 Westminster chapel—H. Bidgood, Esq.
 Trinity chapel, Southwark—J. Oliver, Esq., and J. F. Burdon, Esq.
 Waterloo road—Rev. J. Branch
 Melton place—Rev. J. Preston
 Lambeth Public Meeting—Mr Bond, Mr J. Horton, Mr Richardson, Mr H. Doulton
 Goswell street—Mr J. Barton, and Mr C. Mullins
 Borough road—Rev. J. Stevenson, Messrs J. Gover, J. Liggins, T. A. Green
 Prescott street—J. Danford, W. Bowser, Esq.
 Stepney Meeting—Mr T. Scrutton and Mr J. Newling
 Finsbury chapel—Mr Barlow, Mr J. Watkinson, Mr C. Bradley, Mr T. Balmbray
 Little Wild street—Rev. C. Woollacott, Mr R. Lush, and Mr W. Stiles
 Henrietta street—Dr Murch and Mr Whitehorn
 Brixton hill—Mr Heptenstall and Mr Kitson
 Marylebone, New Church street—Mr G. East, Rev. J. Burns, Mr M. Tebbutt, Mr D. Davies, and Mr J. Balfour
 Mile End road, Salem chapel—Mr H. M. Hobson and Mr J. Vines
 Wesleyan Association—Rev. E. Pearson and Rev. E. Eckett
 Regent street, Lambeth—Rev. W. Frazer, Mr J. Daulton, Mr J. Watts, and Mr James Smith
 Westminster—(Baptist) Mr James Jay, Rev. E. R. Hammond, and Mr Price
 Poplar, Trinity chapel—Mr Richard Law
 Islington, Charlotte street—Mr C. Floyd, Mr Boyce
 Chelsea—(Wesleyan) Mr J. Nettleton
 Tottenham Court road—Rev. J. W. Richardson
 Albion chapel—Mr Gilfillan and Mr E. T. Dick
 Pentonville—Mr J. Parker
 Commercial road—Mr E. Young
 Kingsland road—Rev. C. Dukes, M.A., and Mr E. Dukes
 Goswell road—Rev. J. Peacock
 Barbican—Mr P. Jackson
 Hoxton—Rev. J. A. Jones
 Jamaica row—Rev. G. Rose
 Melrose—Messrs C. Miall, R. Mabbs
 Macclesfield—Rev. S. Bowen, W. Potts, Esq., and Mr J. Rathbone
 Market Harborough—Rev. H. Toller
 Market Drayton—Rev. S. Newth
 Maldon—G. W. Digby, Esq., and Mr E. Stowe
 Maldon—Messrs J. Wilmshurst, J. Pitcairn
 Modbury—S. Pinsent, Esq.
 Maidstone—Rev. H. H. Dobney and Mr J. Stanger
 Maidstone—Rev. W. Chappell, Mr Johnson, and Mr Rogers
 Manchester (Secession)—Messrs W. M. All, and W. M. Kerrow
 Manchester (General Baptist)—Rev. J. F. Terrent
 Congregational and Secession Churches of Knockands (Moray)—Dr Massie
 Union chapel—Mr Harrold
 Markyate street—Rev. J. W. Wake, Mr R. Shewell
 Missenden—Messrs B. Payne, D. Monk
 Mursley—Mr T. H. Manning
 Margate—Rev. H. J. Gamble and Mr J. B. Flint
 Machynlleth—Mr G. Evans
 Merthyr Tydfil—Rev. E. Griffith
 Moulton—Mr Joseph Wheeler
 Marlow—Rev. J. W. Burnham
 Mostyn—Rev. H. Pugh
 Matfield—Mr J. Waterman
 Newcastle-on-Tyne—J. Finlay, Esq., Mr R. Scott, and Mr H. Angus
 Nottingham and Derby Association—Messrs Felkin and Dickenson
 Nottingham—Rev. W. Green, Mr Dunn, and Mr Herbert
 (Baptist)—Mr Vickers, Mr Goodson, and Mr Goodliffe
 North Shields—Rev. A. Jack
 Newtown—Mr J. Evans
 New Basford—Rev. T. Robinson and Mr Birkin
 Narborough—Rev. W. Bedford
 Northampton—Rev. J. Garside, Mr J. Clark, Mr W. T. Swan, and Mr G. Amos
 Northampton—Rev. E. Prust, Mr G. Amos, and Mr Grundy
 Northampton, Grey Friars street—Mr H. Jerson
 Northamptonshire Baptist Association—Mr Underwood and Rev. G. Ashmead
 Norwich—(Public Meeting) Rev. J. Alexander, Rev. A. Reed, B.A., Rev. T. Wheeler, Mr S. Jarrold, and Mr Jer. Colman
 Oundle—Mr G. E. Newth
 Oxfordshire Baptist Association—Rev. Dr Godwin and Rev. C. Darkin
 Ponder's End—Rev. W. Woodhouse and Rev. W. Wilsdon
 Pontypool College—Rev. T. Thomas and Mr G. Thomas
 Peterborough—Rev. Alexander Good
 Paisley—Arch. Hutchinson, Esq.
 Prescott—(Independent) Mr Robert Brown
 Pembroke—(Welsh Calvinistic) Rev. J. Powell
 Pembroke—Rev. W. Powell
 Plymouth—Rev. S. Nicholson, and Mr Jones
 Ruthen—Rev. C. Stovel, and Mr Stephens
 Red Hill, Herts—Rev. D. Richardson
 Royston—W. H. Nash, Esq.
 Rochdale—G. Ashworth, Esq., and Mr W. Logan
 Rushden—Rev. J. Whitemore, and Mr T. Manning
 Rhydyarthen, Carmarthen—Mr C. H. Eit
 Reading—Rev. J. Statham, Mr P. Davies, and Mr Thomas Day
 Reading—Rev. W. Legg and two others
 Ringwood—Rev. J. Burt and another
 Rochford—Rev. E. F. Bodley
 Reigate—Rev. Thomas Rees and Mr Williams
 Redford (Baptist)—Rev. W. Fogg
 Stoke Newington—Mr F. Homan, and Mr C. Holmes
 Swanage—(Independent) Rev. R. Chamberlain
 Street, Glastonbury—Mr A. Cockshaw
 Stratford, Essex—Rev. W. Ward, Mr J. Burton, and Mr E. Thomas
 Stratford-on-Avon—Rev. John Todd
 Stratford—(Wesleyan Association) Mr J. W. Greaser and Mr E. Cotton
 Stourbridge—Rev. J. Richards
 Sunderland—Mr J. Pearce, and Mr J. Hutchinson
 Stafford—Dr Campbell, Dr Morison, R. Sylvester, Esq., and E. Clarke, Esq.
 Syston, Leicestershire—Rev. J. Jones
 Sutton, Leicestershire—Rev. C. Burdett
 Stebbing, Essex—Mr Joseph Dixon and Mr B. Dixon
 Shelford, Cambridgeshire—Rev. W. W. Cantlow
 Sheffield—Rev. R. S. Bayley
 Sidbury, Devon—Mr Jabez Vines
 Stansfield, Suffolk—Mr J. Jennings
 Southern Association of Baptists, 30 Churches, and 9,000 members of congregations—Rev. J. Birt, Rev. T. Morris
 Stroud—(Baptist) Mr Underhill and Rev. T. F. Newman
 Staplehurst—Rev. W. Grigsby and Mr Gull
 Scarborough—Mr J. Stickney and Mr Palmer
 Sheephead—Mr J. Roberts
 Sutton Valence—Mr Harman
 Stirling—Mr J. Nicholson and Mr Gull
 Scarborough—Rev. T. Crybbace
 Shortwood—Mr Underhill and Rev. T. F. Newman
 Southampton, East street—Rev. T. Morris and Mr J. C. Green
 South Molton—Mr J. Conder
 St Helier's, Jersey—Rev. S. Williamson
 Sudbury—Mr C. Ray
 Stockwell—Rev. D. Thomas
 Syston—Mr J. Wyld
 Stamford—Rev. T. Islip
 Salford—Rev. Dr Massie and Rev. J. L. Poore
 Staindrop—Rev. J. Ward
 Stonehouse—Rev. F. Heathcote
 Thurso, North Britain—J. Balbirnie, Esq.
 Tottenham—Mr J. Henchman and Mr J. Baylis
 Totnes—Mr James Spencer
 Tenterden—D. Espanell, Esq.
 Tring—Rev. J. Wycherley

Tunbridge—Rev. J. Mummery and Mr Baker
 Thame—Rev. Isaac Dosey, and Mr Johnson
 Thetford—Rev. J. Ashby
 Tallylyn—Mr G. Evans
 Taunton—Rev. H. Addiscott
 Tooting—Rev. W. Warraker
 Uxbridge—K. Wilkinson, Esq., and J. Hull, Esq.
 Uppingham—Rev. John Green and T. G. Parker, Esq.
 Woburn—(Independent) Mr J. Osborne
 Warrington—Mr E. Miall
 Walsingham—Mr Cornish and Rev. E. Lewis
 Woodbridge—Rev. J. Ross
 Wolston, Warwick—J. Balbirnie, Esq., and Rev. G. Jones
 Weston-super-mare—Rev. Jos. Hopkins
 Wymondham, Leicestershire—Rev. W. Smith
 Wrexham—Rev. J. Pearce
 West Bromwich—Rev. D. Prain and Rev. W. H. Dyer
 Windsor—Rev. J. B. M'Crea, G. Cooper, Esq., H. Darvill, Esq.
 Windsor—Mr C. Moreton
 Western Association of 53 Baptist Churches—Rev. — Jackson, F. Cotton, Esq., Rev. Eustace Carey, W. Huxtable, Esq.
 Wigston Magna—Rev. T. Mays
 Witham, Lincoln—Mr J. Mear
 Wickham Market—(Independent) two delegates
 Wortwell and Harleston—Mr J. Childs
 Woburn—Mr J. Osborn
 Woolwich—Rev. W. Woodland
 Wilton—Mr B. Brown
 Watford—Rev. F. Lloyd
 Whitehaven—Mr Wilkinson
 Walthamstow—Mr Henderson
 Wareham—Rev. R. Fletcher
 Willenhall—Rev. E. Jones
 Waltham Abbey—Rev. James Hargreave
 Yardley Hastings—Rev. W. Todmans
 York (West Riding Association)—Messrs W. Shaw, S. White-wood.

THE ANTI-MAYNOOTH AGITATION still shows signs of activity throughout the country, but we can only briefly notice one or two of its more interesting features. The petition, opposing the grant on the grounds of opposition to all state endowments, adopted at the meeting held at South Parade chapel, Leeds, has received 20,400 signatures; "which," says the *Leeds Times*, "is some thousands more than were appended to the 'no-popery' petition recently sent from Leeds." Meetings to protest against the measure, on the same ground, have been held at Boston (under the auspices of the Civil and Religious Freedom Society); Derby, of Protestant Nonconformists, at which it was recommended that delegates be sent to the Conference now sitting at Crosby hall, from each of the Dissenting congregations in the town; Peterborough, at which a delegate was appointed. At the annual meeting of the Northern Association of Baptist churches, held at Stockton on Tuesday last, resolutions were passed, approving of the Anti-Maynooth Conference (to meet in London on the 20th inst., on Nonconforming principles), appointing three delegates to attend it—declaring repugnance to all endowments by the state for religious purposes—expressing a conviction that religion is most effectually sustained by the voluntary labours and gifts of its own adherents—protesting against the bill now before parliament for increasing the grant to Maynooth (while asserting the title of Catholics to equal rights with their fellow-subjects)—thanking Mr Bright, M.P., and the other thirty members who voted against it on the Nonconformist view of the question—and recommending electors not to vote for any candidate at the next election not known as the decided advocate of civil and religious liberty. Petitions to parliament, founded on the resolutions, were adopted, and ordered to be presented to the Lords by the Marquis of Normanby, and to the Commons by Mr Bright. On Monday week an effective and numerous attended meeting of Protestant Dissenters was held at Vicar Lane chapel, Coventry, to express the grounds of their opposition to the endowment of Maynooth. Joseph Cash, Esq., of the Society of Friends, presided; and Mr John Sibree, Independent minister, read a severe lecture to Mr Williams, one of the M.P.'s for the city, and warned him of the consequences of pursuing the same line of conduct:—

We now come forward, therefore, as we have been summoned, "manfully and boldly to state that we oppose the grant to Maynooth College solely on the ground of our conscientious objections to all state-church endowments;" and, moreover, we come forward openly and manfully to state something else—that if the members for this city repeat the votes they have already given, when the third reading of the bill is proposed, we respectfully inform them that they cannot reasonably or consistently expect to receive the report of their dissenting constituents, should they again solicit their suffrages. We beg to remind them, that while they have votes in the House of Commons, which they give at their pleasure, we too have votes on the hustings which we shall give at our pleasure.

Mr Gordon, Unitarian minister, delivered a powerful address on the subject of state-endowments, and their relation to the Maynooth grant. Several other ministers addressed the meeting, and the resolutions were carried with only one or two Roman Catholic dissentients. On Monday week a meeting to oppose the endowment of Maynooth on "no Popery" grounds, was held at the Corn Exchange, Manchester; Sir C. E. Smith (who attended with a deputation from the Central Anti-Maynooth committee, among whom were the Hon. Baptist Noel and Dr Reed) in the chair. The Chairman wished the democratic spirit of Manchester to go forth and uphold a Protestant House of Lords in opposing the progress of the measure. At the commencement of the proceedings, although the meeting was called by ticket, some adverse parties caused a disturbance by loud cheers for "Sir Robert Peel," "the Queen," and others; but they were removed or quieted by the police. No Dissenters took any prominent part in the proceedings. On Wednesday a public meeting for the same object was held at Derby, one or two of the Dissenting ministers of the town uniting with the clergy in their opposition to the measure. Some of the clergy of the Irish established church are at length giving signs of opposition to the bill. Thirteen of the clergy of the diocese of Cashel have presented an address to Dr Daly, declaring that they deem it their duty to

record their opposition to the Maynooth bill, "as it has been assumed that great indifference exists in Ireland upon the subject;" and they add, this statement might seem to be in some measure supported by the fact, that few petitions have been presented against the proposed grant.

The annual meeting of the Nottingham and Derbyshire Association of Baptist churches was held on Monday and Tuesday, the 12th and 13th inst., at Burton-on-Trent—Mr R. Morris, moderator. Besides other important subjects which occupied the attention of the assembled ministers and messengers, the following resolution was unanimously passed:—

"That this Association, being conscientiously opposed to all state endowments of religion, cannot but view with deep regret the proposal of the British government to provide, out of the national funds, for the support of the Roman Catholic college at Maynooth; and, at the same time, being aware that a general election is approaching, they would earnestly urge upon their friends the importance of voting for those representatives only, who are prepared to oppose all grants out of the public funds for the endowment of religion."

It was also resolved—

"That a deputation should be sent from this Association, consisting of W. Felkin and—Dickenson, Esqrs, of Nottingham, to the approaching Conference of Protestant Dissenters on the Maynooth grant."

Mr R. Morris, of Burton-on-Trent, and Mr J. Davies, of Swanwick, were appointed to represent the Association at the session of the Baptist Union, to be held at Leeds, on the 27th inst.

MELROSE.—A public meeting of the Independent church was held here, on the 15th instant, for the purpose of electing delegates to attend the Conference to be held in London, on the 20th, to oppose the Maynooth grant. Mr Young, pastor of the church, occupied the chair. A series of resolutions were moved by Mr Rutherford, seconded by Mr Hunter, and unanimously adopted by the meeting. They opposed the grant to Maynooth college, on the ground that all endowments of religion are equally unjust in principle, and opposed to the word of God; while they cordially approved of the Conference to be held on the 20th to take this ground, and appointed Mr Charles Miall and Mr Robert Mabbs, of London, as their representatives in that important assembly.

SOUTHAMPTON.—DEFEAT OF A "COMPROMISE."—The advocates of a combined movement on the principles of the Anti-Maynooth Conference have sustained a signal defeat in this town. A fortnight ago, a meeting of several influential Dissenters was held in the vestry of the chapel, Above-bar, at which it was determined to invite the churchmen of the town to join them in opposing the grant to Maynooth. Accordingly, a committee, composed of churchmen and Dissenters, met and prepared a string of resolutions of the usual "no Popery" character. These were proposed at a public meeting held in the Town hall, on Monday last, and were supported by all the Dissenting ministers in the town. But the Nonconformist body mustered in strong force; and an amendment, declaratory of the impolicy and unscriptural nature of all state endowments for the support of religion, was carried, on a show of hands, by at least three to one. Several of the committee shortly after left the hall; and it was further resolved, with only three dissentient voices, to forward a petition in accordance with the amendment to parliament, and that it should be signed by the Mayor, who was in the chair, on behalf of the meeting.

BURTON-UPON-TRENT.—A numerous meeting was held in the Baptist chapel, Station street, Burton-upon-Trent, to appoint delegates to the Conference of Protestant Dissenters on the Maynooth grant now sitting. After Mr R. Morris, who had attended the Conference at the Crown and Anchor, Strand, had reported the result, it was unanimously resolved, "That J. Spiller, Esq., and Mr Henry Clark, of London, minister, be solicited to act as delegates from the meeting to the Conference to be held on the 20th inst., at Crosby hall."

THE UNITARIANS AND THE MAYNOOTH GRANT.—At the annual meeting of the British and Foreign Unitarian Association, held on Wednesday, in their chapel, Essex street, Strand, on it being proposed by Mr Martineau, that a petition be presented from the society in favour of the grant, Dr Hutton (who is one of the leading men among the Unitarians) proposed an amendment to the effect that a petition be presented to parliament against the grant, on the principle of the evil of the interference of the state with religion. After an interesting discussion, in which Mr W. Hincks supported the amendment in an able speech, the original motion was carried by twenty-seven to seventeen. The petition was accordingly adopted; but the minority adopted a protest against the petition, which is now in course of signature. The protest is published by the *Inquirer* of Saturday, with the following names attached to it:—Joseph Hutton, LL.D., William Hincks, Edward Talbot, Richard Bauck, Joseph Thomas Preston, Henry Solly, N. P. Buckler, R. K. Philp, Henry Hawkes, Robert Pinnock, Henry Edward Howse, John Dakin Gaskell, Richard Tayler, Stephen Tayler.

BURTON CHURCH-RATE CASES.—On Monday last, the Burton church-rate cases again came before the magistrates, in consequence of fresh summonses having been taken out against several of the parishioners. The magistrates present were J. J. Tuck, Esq., T. Havers, Esq., Rev. W. Manning, and Rev. H. Harrison. Mr Wallace, of Diss, appeared in support of the rate, and Mr Tillet, of Norwich, for the defendants. After an investigation of the first case, the magistrates came to the following decision:—"We dismiss the case, on the ground that Mr Green, as the sole churchwarden of the parish of

Burston, for the year 1844, neglected to collect the rate of the 14th November last, before his year of office expired, and that Mr Green, as such churchwarden, did not take the necessary steps, before going out of office, to enable his successor to collect the rate." The other cases were dismissed on the same ground, to the evident satisfaction of the parishioners present.—*Norfolk News*.

DOINGS OF THE STATE CHURCH IN DONCASTER.—The true Christian spirit of the apostolic church of England was beautifully illustrated in Doncaster, on Thursday last. On that day a minister of that truly catholic church in the person of a police officer! armed—not with the gospel of peace, but with a distress warrant—not from Christ or his apostles, for they never dreamt of such means, but from Messrs John Eggleton Morey, a surgeon, and Joseph Birley, a grocer, two of her Majesty's justices of the peace for the borough of Doncaster—entered the shop of Mr J. Hastie, grocer, and by the authority of these gentlemen, carried away 4 lbs. sugar, at 6d. per lb.; 20 lbs. ditto, at 7d.; and 14 lbs. soap, at 6d.—altogether £1 0s. 8d., for a church rate of 7s. 6d.—*Leeds Times*.

At the quarterly meeting of the town council of Coventry, on Tuesday last, the Mayor laid before the council a letter from the bishop of the diocese, and a memorial from the clergy and a number of the parishioners of St John's, soliciting from the council, as a corporation and lords of the manor, the gift of a piece of common or waste land for the purpose of erecting thereon a new church. After a lengthy discussion, and the proposal of several amendments, a motion to grant a piece of land, was carried by thirteen to eight. Mr Whittem proposed to add a rider, to the effect that a guarantee should be given against a compulsory rate, but the motion was negatived by twelve to nine.

REFUSAL OF SITES.—The Rev. Messrs Begg and Glass have just returned from visiting those parts of the extensive estates of Lord Panmure, the Earl of Cawdor, the Earl of Seafeld, and Cameron, of Lochiel, in the north of Scotland, on which sites for Free churches are still refused, notwithstanding the urgent and repeated applications of their numerous tenantry. We understand that the hardships to which the Free church ministers and people have been, and are, exposed, in consequence of these refusals, are far greater than we, in the south, have any idea of, and that a full exposure of the whole case will be made at the ensuing general assembly. We believe that other deputations are visiting the other parts of the kingdom where sites are still refused.—*Witness*.

THE EARL OF ELLENBOROUGH.—We have heard it reported that it is the intention of her Majesty to pay a visit to the Earl of Ellenborough, at Southamhall, during the coming summer.—*Cheltenham Chronicle*.

"It is the wise boast of our representatives," says the *Times*, speaking of the violence done by M.P.'s to the wishes of their constituents in their support of the Maynooth endowment bill, "that the men who sent them to parliament are fools."

Postscript.

Wednesday, May 14.

DISSENTING ANTI-MAYNOOTH CONVENTION.

THIS DAY.

The Conference re-assembled at ten o'clock this morning, at Crosby hall. Mr BURNER in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN having read the resolution, the discussion of which was adjourned at yesterday morning's sitting, calling upon dissenters to withhold all support from those members who have voted for the Maynooth bill, then called upon Mr Toller, Independent minister, of Harborough, who moved the adjournment, to address the meeting.

Mr TOLLER briefly expressed his sense of the importance of the subject embraced in the resolution, and trusted it would be thoroughly discussed. He feared there would be great difficulty in carrying it into practical effect.

Dr PRICE then made an effective speech in support of the motion. He adverted in forcible language to the degraded position dissenters now occupied. They had done wrong, and suffered wrong, in allowing themselves to become the mere offshoot and section of a political party—a party which treated their religious principles with supercilious contempt. He hoped they would stand firm to their principles, not merely in speeches and paper resolutions, but at the hustings. Let them support neither the whig Maynooth, nor the tory anti-Maynooth, candidate [cheers]. They might at first lose a few seats; but he was convinced it would be an ultimate gain to the principles of Nonconformity [cheers].

Mr MORRIS, of Portsea, who said he represented the Southern Association of Baptists, comprising 3,000 members, could not agree to the resolution. He thought its practical application could not be carried out, and that, moreover, the Conference had no right to entertain the question. They had been called specifically to oppose the Maynooth bill.

J. C. EVANS, Esq., barrister, followed on the same side, objecting to the latter portion of the resolution. He defended the liberal party in their conduct in reference to the Maynooth bill, on the ground that it was in accordance with the principles most of them had always maintained. This was especially the case with Lord John Russell. He feared, by carrying out that resolution, they would abandon the country to the reign of Toryism. Mr Evans then

enlarged upon having men of their own stamp to represent them in parliament—men nurtured in their principles and of high integrity—and upon the necessity of abandoning the practice of bowing to the aristocracy and seeking out the owners of gold pins and white kid gloves [cheers and laughter].

W. MAY, Esq., of Ipswich, followed on the same side. If they carried out the principle of the resolution, 99 out of every 100 members returned for our boroughs would be tories. He did not think the Conference had authority to take any steps in the matter.

This latter ground of objection was speedily disposed of by Mr MOORE reading one of the clauses of the circular issued by the Provisional Committee, expressly intimating that this matter would be taken into consideration.

Mr MURSELL, of Leicester, thought that, if the Conference broke up without coming to some distinct resolution as to their future policy, they had met for little good. If ever Dissenters were called upon to make a stand on behalf of their principles, assuredly that time was now come. They had a long campaign before them, and let them take firm ground at first starting. If the tories came in, by any act of his which he conceived to be right, he would say, Let them [cheers]. Their business was to do what was right and leave the result [hear]. He concluded by showing the groundless fears entertained with regard to toryism.

Mr HINTON, Baptist minister, of London, thought the previous speaker's argument, as to doing what was right, was a mere begging of the question. He objected to the last clause of the resolution—the remainder he could concur in. Having stated that he could not clearly understand the terms of the resolution, it was slightly modified for the sake of distinctness, the word "those" being substituted for "such." After some discussion relative to the resolution to follow, Mr Hinton resumed the argument, and concluded by moving that the last clause of the resolution be expunged.

The amendment was seconded and supported by Dr MORISON, who was speaking when we left the hall. The discussion of this point will probably occupy the remainder of the morning's, and a part of the evening's sitting. The remainder of the business is comprised in one resolution, which is a sequence to the foregoing one. It calls upon Dissenters to take practical measures for organising themselves previous to the next general election.

The sittings of the Conference will probably close this evening.

ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS OF DELEGATES.

Gateshead (Independent)—Rev. T. Pullar and D. Haggie, Esq.
Wells (Somerset)—D'Arcy Irvine, Esq.
Cirencester—Mr Blakeman (instead of Rev. C. Darkin)
Ashford—Mr Evans
Chesham—Mr H. Edger
Heywood—Mr J. Thorogood
Totnes—Edward Swaine, Esq.
London, Harley street—Rev. S. Davis
Leicester, Friar lane—Rev. S. Wigg
Topsam (Independent)—Rev. J. Carlile

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE MAYNOOTH BILL.

Before the resumption of the adjourned debate, a large number of petitions were, as usual, presented against the measure, a great proportion of which were in opposition to all state grants. Mr BURNER presented the petition from the Dissenting Anti-Maynooth Convention, at Crosby hall, stating that it was signed by 538 delegates.

The effect of the presentation of this latter petition was soon perceptible in the House. Sir W. H. BARRON (a Roman Catholic), who opened the debate, made it the principal basis of his remarks. He acknowledged the justice of the anti-endowment principle. The fair and honest principle was to determine whether they were to endow any state religion. Nine out of every ten of the petitions decided against any endowment of the Protestant religion in England, Ireland, or Scotland; and this was the opinion of the ministers selected from the whole dissenting body who had lately assembled in London. The grant for Maynooth, however, stood on a different principle from that of any other establishment. He was proceeding to make out that the Maynooth grant was a special case, when an hon. member, observing the very thin state of the House, moved that it be counted. A rush of members from Belknap's and the committee rooms took place, while strangers were leaving the gallery, and in consequence the House was not counted out. Sir H. Barron then enforced the right of the Roman Catholics of Ireland to restitutive justice. The discussion was, for the remainder of the evening, sustained by members who rarely take any part in the debates of the House, and was destitute of all novelty. Mr LAWSON, Mr FOLLIOTT, Mr SHAW, and Sir R. INGLIS, spoke in opposition to the bill; Mr CHOLMONDELEY, Sir DENHAM NORREYS, Colonel RAWDON, Mr GASKELL, and Mr BELLEW, in its favour. After these speeches Colonel VERNER moved the adjournment of the debate, which was met by loud cries of "No." A division was taken, when the adjournment was resisted by 180 to 106. Colonel VERNER then moved that the House do now adjourn: but, after some debate, it was withdrawn, and the adjournment of the debate was agreed to.

Earlier in the evening there was a long discussion on a motion by Mr BERNAL OSBORNE, for a "Return of all moneys derived from rents of college lands, endowments, bequests, fees on matriculations, and taking of degrees; specifying the amount of income

paid therefrom to the senior and junior fellows, professors, scholars, and other officers of Trinity college, Dublin."

This he was urged to postpone, but he declined doing so, unless he were assured of another opportunity for bringing it forward. On the government side of the House the motion was opposed by Sir T. FREMANTLE, as being an interference with private property. This view was enforced by Sir R. H. INGLIS, Mr SHAW, and other members, and Sir R. PEEL expressed his determination to resist the production of the information. On the opposition side of the House it was urged by Mr SHELL, Lord JOHN RUSSELL, and others, that Trinity college being founded by the Crown, and endowed with forfeited property (as the estates of the Earl of Desmond, in Kerry), it was competent for the House to call for the information, as it would have an important bearing on the discussions on the intended new colleges in Ireland. Mr BERNAL OSBORNE closed the discussion by offering to withdraw his motion, if any assurance were held out that a royal commission would be issued for inquiry. No answer being returned, the House went to a division, when the motion was rejected by 82 to 53.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Last night, the Marquis of NORMANBY presented a petition from the churchwardens of Wokingham, complaining of the conduct of the Dean of Salisbury and his lessee, in not providing for the necessary repairs of the church of that parish, of which the dean was rector, patron, and ordinary. After commenting, at some length, on the hardship of the case, his lordship moved that the petition should lie on the table. Lord CAMPBELL presented several petitions complaining of the state of the Game Laws; and impressed on their lordships the necessity of a remedy for the evils to which these enactments gave rise. Lords HATHERTON and STRADBROKE assented to the observations of the noble lord; and Lord DACRE stated his intention to bring in a bill on the subject. Several other petitions were presented, and their lordships adjourned.

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—The weekly meeting of this body took place at the Conciliation Hall on Monday, R. D. Brown, Esq., M.P. in the chair. Mr O'Connell said that he had received from Mr H. O'Callaghan a letter, and a piece of music. "The song was a battle song—a direct incitation to fight; and although it came from a respectable gentleman, it was written under a total mistake respecting the principles of the association. There was not a fighting association: on the contrary, he was so averse from strife, that he would not accept of repeal at the expense of shedding one drop of blood" [hear, hear]. He would therefore move that they be sent back. He then moved that a committee be appointed to consider the bearing of those parts of the new college bill, which require lay examination—the 10th and 14th clauses. The hon. gentleman said that he had another motion to make:—

Their progress towards repeal during the present year had not been so rapid as it might otherwise have been, if they had not been impeded by various causes. The Charitable Bequests bill had created some dissension among themselves, and was one of the impediments to which he alluded. The discussion on the Maynooth bill was another; but as it was not likely that similar obstructions would be encountered in the ensuing year, he would give notice of several motions for the guidance of the future course of the association. The first resolution referred to the necessity of spreading repeal reading-rooms through the country. The substance of the second was, that the repeal wardens should exert themselves to prevent the distribution of improper documents at public meetings; of the third, that an arrangement be made in every county, city, and town in Ireland, for the registration of voters in the repeal interest; and of the fourth, that in every quarter of the country petitions in favour of repeal should be prepared for the ensuing session of parliament. They should obtain, at least, 2,000,000 of signatures, and their plan would be to have from three to five petitions presented every day the House sat during the session. They would take that legal and constitutional course, the more especially because the dispute between England and America, on the subject of the Oregon territory, was anything but settled. It must end in an abject submission on the one side or the other, and he wanted England to enlist the people of Ireland in her behalf, and if she did so by giving them the protection of a native parliament, she might set not only America, but the world, at defiance [cheers]. Sir Robert Peel had been making efforts to conciliate the Irish people, some of them not happy ones, and they would stimulate him to advance further in the same course by these petitions [hear].

Several sums of money having been handed in, Mr O'CONNELL brought forward a report from the committee of the association on that of the Irish Land Commission, viz.—the report recommended an extension of the tenant right existing in Ulster, and the enactment of an absentee law, which would compel the residence in their native country of all absentees. The committee likewise stated their belief that if some great change were not effected in the condition of the Irish agricultural labourer, an agrarian war was inevitable. The hon. gentleman addressed the meeting at great length on the topics embodied in the report, and moved its adoption. Mr DAVIS, barrister, seconded the motion, which was carried. The rent for the week was announced to be £132 9s. 11d.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Peas	Flour
English ..	2480	70	1020			
Scotch....						
Irish			3940			
Foreign ..	1010	1370	2110			

Prices steady: a little more inquiry for wheat.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from "Douglas Rutherford," "Freedom," "A Thorough-paced Nonconformist," and "Index."

"James Russell." We were not aware that any considerable number of the Wesleyans were readers of our paper. Our reports of anniversaries are necessarily attended with some expense; and when the committees of religious societies throw every obstacle in the way, we can only obtain reports at considerable cost. We will attend to his suggestion, however, next year, and shall be happy, meanwhile, to insert any well-authenticated intelligence respecting the Wesleyan body which may be forwarded to us by correspondents.

"A Wesleyan of the Old School" under consideration.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.
For 7 lines....5s. 0d. | For 10 lines....6s. 0d.
For every additional line.....4d.

* Advertisements from the country must be accompanied by a post-office order, or reference for payment in London.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1845.

SUMMARY.

THE Dissenting Anti-Maynooth Conference, assembled yesterday at Crosby hall, will far more than answer any expectation we had formed of it. In numbers, in earnestness, in generosity, in adherence to principle, it transcends our most sanguine hopes. The number of delegates we should take to be from 600 to 700. The unanimity which prevails amongst them—and that too, not in consequence of that process of suppression which some men deem to be identical with Christian charity, but in entire harmony with the most complete freedom of utterance—augurs well for the future. One of the main resolutions—that, we mean, which places the opposition of Dissenters to the Maynooth bill upon the broad ground advocated from the first by the *Nonconformist*—was unanimously passed. Another, which pledges Dissenters to make their principles as a test in future of parliamentary candidatures, although not disposed of at the close of yesterday's sittings, will, we conjecture, from the high tone manifested by the Conference, be determined upon with little opposition. The immediate effect of this gathering upon the fate of the bill may be scarcely perceptible, but it will be of immense importance, as it regards the future destinies of the country. We rejoice beyond measure, that we are now surrounded by the general body of earnest Dissenters—that events have at length driven them up to our mark—and that we may fairly anticipate, for the great question which lies nearest to our heart, a treatment from those who profess to appreciate its worth, worthy of its supreme importance.

If anything could convince Dissenters of the policy of taking a determined stand upon their principles, and leaving the consequences to Him who governs them, we should imagine the letter of the Duke of Newcastle would succeed in doing so. The views of that noble peer differ, of course, *toto calo* from our own; but his address to the people of England contains much sound advice, to which even Nonconformists might do well to take heed. His denunciation of all insincerity—his earnest exhortations to perform the duty we owe to truth, irrespective of present results, which its performance may entail upon us—his desire to bring back the English people to what they may regard as a solemn obligation, and to quit the enticing but treacherous ground of a temporary expediency—his counsel to electors to eschew all corrupt arts, all bribery and intimidation, and to base their electoral proceedings upon such grounds as the highest virtue can approve—we, for our own part, can most emphatically reiterate. Aiming at a totally different object to that contemplated by the Duke of Newcastle, we cordially approve of the means which he recommends; and we do trust that ministers of the gospel, and men making a high profession of religion in our nonconforming churches, will not be found to lag behind a tory peer of the realm in that entire devotedness to the truth they profess to have received, which he enforces so strongly upon his friends and followers.

Up to Monday evening the proceedings of the House of Commons were of little general interest. On Thursday evening, the first sitting after the short recess, Mr Wakley re-opened the subject of medical reform, by moving for a committee to inquire into the management of the Royal College of Surgeons. His speech was a crushing attack on the council of the College. He showed that at its establishment, the council was invested with irresponsible powers, which enabled it to monopolise all the emoluments of the institution—that these privileges were further enlarged by the new charter granted by government in 1843—that the great body of practitioners were excluded from all control and interest in its management—that it was universally condemned by the medical profession—and that Sir James Graham's recent alterations left these extraordinary and unconstitutional powers almost untouched. The learned coroner, supported by historical evidence, made out a strong case against this close corporation;

but the House, which seems to have an invincible repugnance to the investigation of rank abuses, and to interference with vested interests, did not evince the same zeal in the matter. Mr Wakley concluded his speech at the critical hour of seven; and honourable members, preferring their dinners to a debate on so uncongenial a subject, the House was counted out, and the motion fell to the ground. The probable result of these indications of the feeling of the medical profession will be, that Sir James Graham's unsatisfactory scheme of medical reform will be abandoned for this session, leaving the Council in possession of their exclusive privileges.

Friday was a supply night, and the proposal of the navy estimates gave rise to discussions on various topics connected with that branch of the service. Captain Berkeley and other members condemned the present system of manning the navy, the inefficient and expensive mode of building ships, and the insufficient pay of seamen. Lord Palmerston raised a discussion on the unsatisfactory steps adopted by government for putting down the slave trade, in comparison with those of the preceding administration, of which he formed a part, and inquired into the truth of the rumour that the two commissioners, appointed by the French and English governments, had agreed to recommend the destruction of barracoons and slave depôts as the most effectual means of checking the inhuman traffic. Sir R. Peel declined giving any information on the subject, justly remarking that the best mode of suppressing the slave trade was not by an assumption of authority on our parts, unsanctioned by engagements, or at variance with the law of nations.

The debate on the third reading of the Maynooth bill, so anxiously looked forward to by all parties, commenced on Monday night, and was adjourned. When the division will take place it is impossible to conjecture—probably not until after several nights' discussion. Two amendments were proposed, one of which was speedily disposed of—the other is yet under debate. The former was submitted by Mr Ewart in the following terms:—"While it is expedient to open all the public educational establishments of Ireland to the Catholics, to reduce to its due dimensions the Irish church, and to establish entire civil and religious equality between Great Britain and Ireland, it is not advisable to extend the principle of making any religious denomination endowed by, and dependent on, the state." The honourable member did not object to *existing* establishments, but simply to the *extension* of the system of endowment—a truly novel principle to act upon, worthy of the time-serving expediency of the "liberal" politician! The value of the principle is thus wholly decided by extrinsic circumstances. *In esse* it is to be vindicated—in *posse* to be condemned! Such is the value put upon the great principle of religious liberty, which Mr Ewart, doubtless with a large portion of the liberal party, was sent to parliament to advocate. Every discussion in the House of Commons, on ecclesiastical topics, is a fresh incentive to activity and exertion on the part of Dissenters. The amendment of the hon. member for Dumfries was eventually withdrawn, with an intimation that, as he had now announced the principle on which he was about to act, he thought that the best mode of carrying it out would be to combine in a vote against the third reading of the bill with the ordinary supporters of the government. Mr Banks then moved that the bill be read a third time that day six months, and the debate proceeded in due course, and with unexampled dullness. The old arguments were re-produced on both sides of the question, without the slightest pretence to novelty. Mr C. Buller came to the aid of government, but, with all his humour, he was unable to impart much interest to the debate, which was adjourned to Tuesday—not without a show of opposition from the Premier, who, nevertheless, thought that the delay of the measure had been very successful in allaying the apprehensions entertained regarding it.

Lord Brougham has re-commenced his legislative labours this session, with an energy which, to those who recollect the failure of his Debtor and Creditors bill, will be more surprising than consoling. He has undertaken the amendment, in several important respects, of the civil and criminal law of the land—a task before which the seven labours of Hercules sink into insignificance. Nine bills are the fruit of the noble lord's exertions, and they were read a first time. An outline of their provisions will be found elsewhere. They are certainly for the most part great improvements upon our present barbarous code. The field of law reform is a wide one—large enough to absorb the energies even of a Brougham. If, instead of bespattering the Duke of Wellington with flattery, exchanging compliments with Lord Ellenborough, and snarling at Lord Campbell, the noble lord would give his undivided attention to this neglected subject, he might still do the state, as well as his own reputation, some service. But we fear it may still be said of him, as heretofore, that he is "to one thing constant—never."

The "chief difficulty" of the Premier becomes

more unmanageable every day. His second concession to Ireland is rejected with scorn and contempt. Mr O'Connell agrees with Sir R. Inglis in condemning it as a scheme of "godless education," as idle as ever came from the lips of man, and promises it all the negative opposition in his power. This day the Catholic hierarchy meet, probably to denounce it in similar terms. The "Young Ireland" party, however, represented by the *Nation*, approve of the measure, with some slight exceptions, and have thereby, it is said, come to an open rupture with Mr O'Connell and the more moderate repealers. Meanwhile the repeal cry is again sounding throughout the country. The press does its best to stimulate the increasing hate towards England. Monster meetings are to be revived in all their pristine magnitude, Tara hill to be the first place of rendezvous; and on all hands we hear of ovations in honour of the late repeal prisoners. Mr O'Connell is evidently borne along by the current, unable to stem the rising tide. Real justice to Ireland, in place of insulting bribes, can alone allay the threatening storm. "The rate at which the Sybil's books are burning," truly observes the *Examiner*, "may be marked in the reception of Sir Robert Peel's concessions, such as they are; and the time may come when the tardy discharge of the debt of justice to Ireland, though it may relieve the conscience of England, will be unavailing to the restoration of concord between the races—a result which we regard as the most baneful calamity that can befall the empire."

THE TRICK SEEN THROUGH.

AFFAIRS in this empire are slowly, but surely, working on to some vast and, as we confidently hope, some salutary change. State-craft is evidently sinking into the imbecility of age, and the reign of deceit is drawing towards its close. The "organised hypocrisy," now that its true character is generally understood, and men take it for what it is, rather than for what it professes to be, is nigh to dissolution; for nations cannot be long governed by known insincerity of any sort. Sir Robert Peel has at length evolved himself—spun out his whole stock of web—made palpable, even to the most inconsiderate, the inner and essential soul of his much-vaunted statesmanship; and he now stands before the world a mere heartless trickster, without aim, without principle, and without power to conceal, whether from his friends or foes, the hollowness of his pretences. The true type of a selfish oligarchy in its last stage of domination—cunning from necessity—plausible, because driven into straits—shifty, according to every gust of popular feeling—and ever false, as valuing truth no otherwise than as a convenient cloak—the Premier begins to find his arts unavailing. His sudden changes of policy, even when men hope to profit by them, gather about him no new adherents—his frowns have been laughed at with impunity—his favours are received without gratitude—and, although opinions may differ as to the measures he proposes, there is but one opinion respecting himself—that he is a pompous sham, whose sole ability consists in making a lie look like truth—the leading "smasher" of the political world.

The mode in which Sir Robert Peel has dealt with Ireland, confessedly his "great difficulty," may be regarded as a faithful exponent of the man, and of the party whom he represents. He found that country reduced by misgovernment to beggary and rags, but not yet to tame servility. There lay ready to his hand, had he been minded to use them, ample materials for weaving into a fabric of national greatness, materials which no aristocratic selfishness had succeeded in destroying—a generous people, a rich soil, natural advantages of every variety and of the highest order. What did he do? His first attempt was by an overwhelming military demonstration, by packed juries, and by a forced interpretation of constitutional law, to crush that growing spirit of independence which made oppression uneasy. He failed; and what he could not accomplish by force he resolved upon effecting by subtlety. His whole policy is now cast into the shape of conciliation. But of what does it consist?—of sincere and *bona fide* efforts to ameliorate the condition of the people? Not at all! He seeks now to play the game of delusion—to purchase a hierarchy by compliments—to bribe a priesthood by educational grants—to corrupt a middle class by collegiate institutions. And he hopes, by this kind of *legerdemain*, to retain every abuse under which Ireland groans, and upon which oligarchy fattens, and yet to pass himself off as the truest, largest-hearted, wisest friend of that unfortunate kingdom.

Well! it is some consolation to observe that his trick is seen through. The Maynooth Endowment bill excited but a momentary thrill of pleasure; and it is accepted now, not as a boon representing kind intentions, but as a tribute wrested from fear by persevering agitation. The bill for establishing academical institutions is even less successful. O'Connell joins with Sir Robert Inglis in denouncing it as a "gigantic scheme of godless education"—Sheil blows upon it as a measure which

the Roman Catholic clergy cannot consistently sanction—and the Irish press, with some exceptions, view it in its true light, as “a delusion, a mockery, and a snare.” Take, for example, the following, from the *Kilkenny Journal* :—

“Need we point out to our readers the insidious attempt, developed in this measure to corrupt our youth? To obtain the rewards of learning or genius, they must profess themselves subservient to the government—the English government—bigoted, persecuting, and exclusive, as it will be, and as it has been, towards their country. It is not a generous concession to Irish wants, but a treacherous scheme to corrupt the young mind and taint the young heart of our country through government patronage and influence. Away with it! It is directed chiefly against repeal. No scholar will obtain a professorship in any of the proposed collegiate institutions who believes that domestic legislation would be a blessing to his country. He may be first of a hundred candidates, but if he be a repealer he will be requested to retire. The Irish youth must not dare to think on Irish questions otherwise than as the English government approves, or they will be excluded from the benefits of academical education in their own country! Away with it again, it is an abomination. We spurn with scorn such a gift. We will do still more. If they dare to insult our eyes with any of these stewards of government corruption, under the name of colleges, we will level them with the ground. But even though it were not what it actually is—a scheme of corruption, under the inviting name of education—for what should we receive it with so much thankfulness? It is not learning we want at all, it is food and raiment. We ask for bread, and you give us a book! First give us bread, and we will get the book ourselves. But while we are starving, do not expect that a few theological, classical, or scientific professorships, to be enjoyed by creatures corrupted with your money, will satisfy the cravings of our physical wants. What profound legislation!”

Listen, again, to the denunciations of the *Tipperary Vindicator* :—

“There are the seeds of a deadly corruption in this system. The principals and professors are not only to be appointed by, but they are to be dismissed just as it suits the fancy of, the executive government for the time being. Whilst this question is *sub lite*, it is quite plain to all who know anything of the swarm of place-hunters and jobbers with which this country is invested, that there are many who will go about crying up the advantages of this plan, and, under the guise of a simulated patriotism, bid for appointments under it.”

Aye! these passages, bitter though they be, describe with accuracy the true character and purport of this new measure of conciliation. Corruption—its one object and tendency is corruption. The bait is an attractive one—but, happily, the sharp hook is seen. The simple-minded monomaniacs who, because education is a good thing, would give it to the people in a poisoned cup, may rail, if they will, at the ignorant perversity of the age. From our lowest heart we rejoice that the age is before them—and that Ireland as well as England understands the charlatanism of an oligarchy reduced to its last shifts.

What may be coming next we cannot even conjecture. Sure we are, however, that the present dynasty of plausible falsehood is near at an end. An empire like ours cannot long submit to be governed by an exploded lie. There are real and earnest interests in this world of ours—interests with which the strongest affections of man's heart are intertwined—which neither Saxon nor Celt will suffer to be rudely kicked aside by a mere political *petit-maitre*. For a brief interval, and until the nation has gathered up its angry might, the empiric may strut in solemn pretence upon the stage, and the parliament which he manages may applaud him to the echo, and shout in the vexed ears of an intelligent people, “A Daniel! a second Daniel come to judgment!”—but his hour approaches—the hour which will sorely try the flimsy factions who profit by his dexterity. Society already trembles with indignation—its pulse beats quicker—its veins swell—its eye kindles with ire—and every limb is silently, and as if unconsciously, disposing itself into a general attitude of fixed determination. “Out upon all this miserable trifling!” it will presently exclaim; “give me a sincerity of some sort, for I will bow no longer to a plaster-of-Paris image!” Sooner or later it will come to this—and when it does come, iconoclasm will be the order of the day. What a multitude of hollow things will be shivered to splinters when once the work fairly begins!

THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE UPON THE STATE OF THE COUNTRY.—For a second time since the introduction of the Maynooth Endowment bill, has the Duke of Newcastle come forward to proffer his advice to the Protestants of England. The letter is long, and an amplification of the arguments urged by the noble peer in his previous address; but there is a sincerity of motive and honesty of purpose about it, which are truly novel in these days of unprincipled expediency. In writing the present letter, his object was satisfactorily to answer the question, “How can I, by any feeble efforts of mine, contribute most largely towards the solid and lasting benefit of my country?” “I have,” he continues, “purposely abstained from communicating politically with any individuals who are connected with the political world; whatever I might do, I wished to do purely, openly, and without bias—not by combination, not by faction, not by subtlety—I was resolved to be clear of the charge of being a political intriguer; a character, in my mind, especially mischievous and shuntable. I shall cheerfully and fearlessly proceed, in conjunction with you, to rescue

our religion, our state, and our national and individual interests, from the intolerable oppression and thralldom of parliamentary intrigue and machinations, with all the innumerable evils attendant thereon.” And first for the House of Commons and its ruler :—

It must, then, appear to you that the present struggle is made to be a contest between the parliament and the people. The national opinion is one way, the majority in parliament is another. Why is this? Ought not the representation to reflect the opinions of its constituents, especially so, it may be supposed, since its imagined purification by the Reform bill? The fact, however, is otherwise.

A strait-waistcoat control is exercised over the well-meaning and independent portion of the House of Commons. But what is to be done if ministers resign? Who can supply their place, when all who have any pretension to the name of statesmen are said to be on the government side? “Surely we must hope and believe that there is no lack of equally good statesmen in the kingdom of England, if opportunity called them forth.” He proceeds to condemn the whole course of legislation which had its commencement in the repeal of the Test and Corporation acts. “A sure, though unperceived, mode of stealing a march, of sapping our morality, undermining our civil and religious institutions, and, in fact, of revolutionising the state.” With regard to the present government, he says :—

As far as my recollection serves me, not one good measure has passed since the entrance into office of the present administration; the *amor patriæ* appears to me to have been lamentably disregarded, and the *amor sui* cherished as a more expedient and more suitable substitute. Whatever misdeeds were committed by the former government, and they were many and glaring, they were forced out of office by the expectation that the new government would set all to rights; but, to our astonishment, we soon perceived that the very measures to enforce which unseated the former were adopted by the new administration, with an utter disregard of its own credit, and of our private feelings and national interests.

He inquires of his fellow-countrymen whether their expectations have been fulfilled; whether they are satisfied with the honesty, good faith, and gratitude of their rulers; or whether bitter disappointment and unalterable distrust do not prevail? Here is his remedy :—

I mentioned, in a former part, that I would refer to what should be done in the case of constituents and representatives. I ventured to recommend you to petition; but, if petitioning should fail, you may follow it up by calling upon your representatives to resign their trusts. Suppose that they decline; follow this up by strong declaratory resolutions: persist in this course; and by its effects, if unavailing, which I can hardly believe to be possible, still continue a steady and resolute determination. So situated, the minister may resign; he will calculate no other administration can be formed, and that he must be recalled and reinstated; but, in this calculation, if it should be your pleasure to defeat it, you will do well to act thus:—Whenever the time arrives, unanimously resolve to elect such members only as you know to be well affected to the preservation and maintenance of our purely Protestant constitution in church and state, and to the exclusion of all noxious measures. If you cannot find them among those who have usually represented you, search for others—look for worth, wherever and in whomsoever it lies—look for devotion to his country's cause, for sound sense, for a loyal subject, a faithful citizen, a good man, and a good churchman; the highest talents, unless combined with these, are more than worthless. Care not for wealth, if you can find integrity. Refrain from all sordid considerations. Banish the very idea of bribery, or payment for votes, or spending of money. Such proceeding would do you unfaded honour, and it would immortalise you. Success must await it, and you will be invincible whilst you act wisely and well. I confidently call upon all good men to act thus, and show themselves to be true patriots of a new school. To dissenters I would say, What form of religious faith can equal or surpass the pure, the simple, yet sublime and earnest doctrine of the established church of England? Join her if you can, and make one of an united brotherhood; but if you cannot, still give all your support to a church and state which tolerate all. To those who entertain party views I will say, Throw aside party, and act upon principle. You are Britons—you love your country and your Queen; let us all unite for their welfare; they pressingly require your manful aid and pious defence; they are in difficulty and danger, and demand your honest and strenuous support.

Party has done but little for you of late years. Where has it promoted any good end but a competition of change and destruction?—one side, when in power, scarcely differing in a shade from the other. Reform has proved to be a delusion, political economy a mischievous conceit; but of all the subtle contrivances for misgovernment planned by the great corrupter of souls, political expediency has been the bane of modern times—rejoicing in crookedness and deformity, it miscalls good evil, and transposes vice for virtue; itself degenerated in a total abandonment of all principle, it corrupts, demoralises, and degrades all who give in to its practices; engendering perfidy, deceit, treacherous dereliction, and every nameable political wickedness; most unworthy of every great—of every noble mind; let it be shunned, disgraced, and relinquished.

Lay the foundation of a new school; and henceforth let the school of political virtue be the basis of England's grandeur, as it would be of her settled happiness.

The address is dated April 19th to 23rd.

SIR ROBERT PEEL A SCOTTISH PROPRIETOR.—We hear that Sir Robert Peel has purchased the estate of Closeburn, in Dumfriesshire, for the sum of £230,000.—*Glasgow Examiner*.

A Treasury order has been declared, that since precious stones are to be imported duty-free under the new tariff, as unmanufactured articles, the duty chargeable on precious stones set in to be calculated solely on the value of the setting, not on the value of the jewels, which are usually worth ten times the setting; thus substituting a duty of 20 per cent. on the setting for a much heavier duty on the stones themselves.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Agriculture, for relief of, 4.
Charitable Donations (Ireland) bill, for repeal of, 32.
County Courts, for establishment of, 3.
Education (Ireland), for removing restrictions on, 19.
Factories, for restricting labour in, 2.
Hill Coolies, against importation of, 1.
Insolvent Debtors act, for repeal of, 2.
Justices' Clerks bill, against, 1.
Lord's Day, for the better observance of, 33.
Maynooth College, against grant to, 933.
for, 26.
Parochial Settlements bill, against, 21.
Public Houses, for diminishing the number of, 8.
Schoolmasters (Scotland), for ameliorating their condition, 11.
St Asaph and Bangor Dioceses, against union of, 25.
Union with Ireland, for repeal of, 4.
Universities (Scotland), for abolition of tests, 2.

BILL READ A FIRST TIME.

Criminal Lunatics (Ireland) bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Banking (Ireland) bill.
Military Savings' Banks bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Supply :—£199,092, Admiralty office; £11,608, General Register of Seamen; £39,545, Scientific Department; £131,047, Naval Establishments at home; £32,957, Naval Establishments abroad; £690,630, Wages to Artificers, &c., at home; 41,993, Wages to Artificers, &c., abroad.
Indemnity bill.

DEBATES.

Thursday, May 15th.

REFORM OF THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

The House of Commons re-assembled this evening after the Whitsuntide recess.

Mr WAKLEY, in pursuance of his notice, brought under the consideration of the House the management of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and the charter granted to it in the year 1843. He regretted that Sir J. Graham would not retract the false step he had made in granting that charter, by making those changes in it which the profession required. The history of the conduct of the council of the College of Surgeons was one of continued injustice from the year 1826 down to the year 1843. During all that time their conduct had been incriminated by the profession, and medical associations and clubs had been formed in every part of the country to guard against its arrogant and oppressive regulations. In 1843, the profession was informed that a new charter had been granted to the college, in which new and extraordinary privileges were conferred, by the crown, on that very council whose conduct had proved so obnoxious. He pointed out the various hardships which this new charter inflicted on more than 10,000 members of the profession. It was one of the most absurd and irrational measures that had ever been concocted by the wit of man. Nobody was satisfied with it, not even Sir James himself. After condemning the obnoxious power of self-appointment, which was given to the council, he proceeded to point out the different grounds on which the profession complained of this charter, and to insist that, if prerogative charters were to be thus recklessly granted, it was fitting that they should be rigidly scrutinised by parliament. He would reduce the whole question now in dispute to this issue—“the charter having been granted, ought it to be continued in force?” On the face of the charter itself he said that it was evident that inquiry must be granted, or that the minister must say that the charter could not stand. He, therefore, asked Sir J. Graham whether it was his intention, first, to refuse inquiry into the management of the Royal College of Surgeons? and, secondly, if it was his intention to refuse that inquiry, whether he intended to maintain the charter in its present odious and obnoxious state? He could not believe that Sir James would voluntarily take such a course; but he had made one false step, and would perhaps endeavour to redeem it by making another. Mr Wakley then proceeded to attack the council of the college, and accused them of having betrayed the trust reposed in them, and of having injured the interests, and of having attempted to degrade the character, of the great majority of their professional brethren. It was a matter of great importance to the nation at large, and more particularly to the poorer classes, that there should be dispersed over the whole surface of the country a large body of well-educated and competent medical practitioners; and enumerated several lamentable cases in which irreparable injury, and even death itself, had been inflicted by the incapacity, inexperience, and downright ignorance of individuals who had been permitted to exercise surgery, physic, and midwifery under the existing system. He pointed out several defects in the medical bills recently introduced by Sir J. Graham, and concluded by moving two resolutions, inculcating the management of the Royal College of Surgeons, and calling for investigation into the circumstances which led to the grant of an additional charter to it in 1843, and into the effects produced by its operation on the profession at large. If those resolutions were negatived, he should propose another resolution, on which he would take the sense of the House, to the effect—

“That in any charter which the Crown might be advised to grant for the incorporation of the general practitioners, those gentlemen were fully entitled to enjoy an equality of professional station with the newly-created fellows, and that a deep and lasting injury would be inflicted on many thousands of scientific men, if a college of general practitioners were to be founded as an institution inferior to the College of Surgeons.”

Here a motion was made that the House be counted, and the consequence was, that the House adjourned a few minutes before seven o'clock, as forty members were not present.

Friday, May 16th.

MANNING THE NAVY.

The House having resolved itself into a committee of supply,

Captain BERKELEY called the attention of the House to the present system of manning her Majesty's navy, and the difficulty of obtaining able seamen for her service. He gave credit to the present Board of Admiralty for having abolished the absurd practice of having two complements for a man-of-war—a peace-complement and a war-complement: a ship ought to be manned according to its number of guns and weight of metal; but, to his surprise, the Board have reverted to the old practice! He pointed out the substitution of machinery for men, by the change from sailing to steam vessels in our coasting trade, which has deprived us of one nursery for seamen. He described the deficiency of men; giving instances—as in his own case, where, during winter in the Channel, he found that he had but twelve able seamen in his ship: and he urged on government the necessity of devising some measure for securing an adequate supply of able seamen. He particularly insisted on the necessity of making the service more attractive to men, who are no longer supplied by the merchant service to the navy, but by the navy to the merchant service. Faith, at least, should be kept with them; and they ought to have had their share of the prize-money in China, instead of the mere batta tardily allowed; for a sailor cares more for £10 of prize-money than for £20 of wages. He made no motion.

Sir GEORGE COCKBURN replied. He admitted that the full number of men could not at once be obtained in case of emergency; but he contended, that although the ships have not in all cases their complement, they have sufficient to perform the requisite evolutions and exercises, and to form a nucleus for a full force in case of war. During the past wars, our vessels were under-manned, as compared with the American and French ships—the Victory, Nelson's own ship, had 100 men less than her complement. Sir George touched upon the evils of crimping, exhorting owners of merchant ships to abolish that practice.

Mr SOMES, though he wished it could be dispensed with, showed practically that it cannot.

Mr HEDWORTH LAMTON would adopt some legislative means to suppress it.

The discussion was kept up at some length among professional members, eventually dropping without result.

SUPPRESSION OF THE SLAVE TRADE.

Lord PALMERSTON then said that he would avail himself of the present opportunity, as the time for presenting the annual papers on the slave trade was fast approaching, to make a short reply to the observations made by Sir R. Peel on a former night, in consequence of his remarking that the papers then laid on the table were in many points defective. He repeated the charges that he made against ministers a short time since, with some addition; comparing the number of treaties for suppression of the slave trade concluded by the whigs (twelve in 1830 and eighteen subsequently) with what the present government have done—that is, nothing, except to undo the negotiations with France, let off the United States by "the Ashburton capitulation," &c. He gathered that the joint French and English commissioners contemplated arrangements leading to the destruction of barracoons and blockade of ports on the coast of Africa, of which he approved. And he wished to know if there was any truth in the whisper abroad, that Brazil had notified the termination of the treaty which gave to this country the right of mutual search and established the Mixed Commission?

Sir ROBERT PEEL answered Lord Palmerston's old charges much in the way that he did on a previous occasion with some sarcastic allusion to the Viscount's warm, but deserved, eulogy on his own exertions to suppress the slave trade: he seemed to think that his merit was not sufficiently appreciated by the public, and therefore he entered upon an elaborate description of it once at least every month. Sir ROBERT declined to say anything about the pending negotiations with France. It is true that Brazil has notified the termination of the treaty in question; which was originally concluded with Portugal, before the separation of the Brazilian colony from the parent state, but renewed by Brazil after the separation in 1825. The original treaty reserved the right to terminate it fifteen years after the suppression of the slave trade; which took place in 1830—not practically, but formally, by declaration of law; and the fifteen years expired in March last. There is some doubt as to the right of termination under the newer treaty; but, supposing it to exist, Brazil is bound to this country by a permanent engagement—a mutual agreement that, after 1830, the slave trade should be accounted piracy in the subjects of either country; an agreement which Brazil alone cannot terminate, and which is still in force.

The House went into committee, and passed several votes of the navy estimates.

Monday, May 19th.

PRIVILEGE.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL called attention to the present state of the action-at-law of Howard against the Sergeant-at-Arms, as resulting from the recent decision of the judges in the case, and moved for a select committee (following the precedent of 1839) to which shall be referred copies of the short-hand writer's notes of the judges' decisions, the arguments, &c., with a view to their arriving speedily at some deliberate determination as to the course which should be adopted.

Lord HOWICK could not help expressing his deep

regret that so soon should be realised Sir Thomas Wilde's predictions as to the weak and pusillanimous course which they had been induced to adopt. Step by step they would find that they held their privileges at the mercy of the courts of law.

Sir R. H. INGLIS protested against this language. The House had manifested a becoming deference to the courts of law. If they were to enter into a struggle with them, let them show their courage by bringing the Lord Chief Justice to the bar, instead of trying their power on mere ministerial officers, as sheriffs.

The motion was then agreed to.

MAYNOOTH ENDOWMENT BILL.

Sir R. PEEL then moved the third reading of the Maynooth College bill.

Mr EWART moved, as an amendment, that

"While it is expedient to open all the public educational establishments of Ireland to the Catholics, to reduce to its due dimensions the Irish church, and to establish entire civil and religious equality between Great Britain and Ireland, it is not advisable to extend the principle of making any religious denomination endowed by, and dependent on, the state."

He said that he, and those hon. gentlemen who coincided in his views, were desirous of establishing an open system of education in Ireland, and of diminishing the revenues of the established church in that country; but they objected, on principle, to the system of religious endowment by the state. He had voted with the hon. member for Oxford university (Sir R. Inglis), the Right Hon. Recorder of Dublin (Mr Shaw), and the Hon. Recorder of London (Mr Law), against the Maynooth bill; but, though he entertained high respect for those hon. gentlemen personally, he differed from them in opinion as to many questions of public policy. The standard those honourable gentlemen raised bore upon it a device far too exclusive for him. On the other hand, he differed in opinion from her Majesty's ministers, because he was opposed to any extension of the system of endowment by the state. He did not object to existing establishments, but simply to the extension of the system of endowment. He thought the House would do well to leave theological questions—whether relating to Maynooth or any other matter—to those whom theology concerned; and that they ought not to mingle such sacred subjects with the more public—he would not say profane—debates of that House. He considered that, if the question of endowment was not involved in this measure, at all events it was initiated by it. But he believed it was now too late to attempt the state endowment of the Roman Catholic or any other church. Forty or fifty years ago a proposal for such endowment might have been acceded to; but he believed that there was now a general feeling that religious endowments should be made on purely religious principles, and that it was the duty of every man to contribute liberally to the support of that religious creed which he professed.

Mr MARSHALL seconded the amendment, protesting against the increase of religious establishments, while such an anomaly existed as the wealthy Protestant church of Ireland in the midst of a Catholic and impoverished population, to whom he was desirous of seeing ample justice done:—

He asked, did the aspect of ecclesiastical affairs in the three kingdoms justify the attempt to endow a new church? Was the spirit of Christianity making that way in Ireland which it must inevitably do if not embarrassed by a connexion with the state? He believed it was admitted that the only feeling in common with Protestants and Roman Catholics was that of mutual hatred. So strong were religious feelings roused, even in this country, that he was sure at the next general election religion would be made a stalking-horse for political adventurers, and all this arose from not laying the axe to the root of the evil—the established church [hear, hear]. It had been said that the opposition of the Dissenters was founded on a mere anti-papery cry, because they had not objected to the *regium donum*, though they now protested so strongly against the grant to Maynooth. But he believed the great mass of the Dissenters were as strongly opposed to the grant of a *regium donum* to the Presbyterians as they were to the increase in the sum given to Maynooth [hear, hear]. Wishing to deny to his Roman Catholic fellow-subjects no privilege which he claimed for himself, and believing that it was not desirable for their religion itself that it should be endowed by the state, he should vote against the third reading of this bill.

The gallery was cleared for a division; but no division took place, inasmuch as Mr EWART withdrew his amendment, declaring that, as he had now announced the principle on which he was about to act, he thought that the best mode of carrying it out would be to combine in a vote against the third reading of the bill with the ordinary supporters of the government.

Mr BANKES then met the motion for the third reading of the bill, by the direct negative that it be read a third time "this day six months." In a discursive speech, he urged that ministers, acting on deceptive information, would deceive their Sovereign if they advised her to assent to this measure, opposed to the Protestant constitution and the general feeling. He also cited a pamphlet, published by the famous Dr Duigenan, in 1799, in which he affirmed that the Irish parliament had been duped into the passing of the original Maynooth act, the grant in which was meant merely as a temporary help, to enable the Roman Catholics to continue the permanent endowment of Maynooth by their own voluntary contributions. They were now permanently enlarging the grant, withdrawing all control, and the ultimate consequences, he feared, would not only be fatal to the Irish Protestant church, but lead even to the possibility of a Catholic successor to the throne. They might be defeated in parliament, but not in the country. It was said, at the battle of the Boyne, "Change kings, and we will fight the battle over again." He said to ministers, change the parliament, and they would fight this contest over again. But, in the present state of public feeling, they dared not dissolve and appeal to the constituencies.

Sir R. H. INGLIS seconded the amendment.

Mr McGEACHY declared his intention of voting in

favour of the third reading of this bill, because he considered it, not as an act of concession or conciliation—words which he could wish to banish from the English language, if, with them, he could banish the policy which they denoted—but as an act of full and spontaneous justice towards Ireland, founded on humane and truly Christian principles. He contended that Mr Bankes had greatly overrated the hostility of the people of England against this bill. The agitation against it was not spontaneous, if it were true that 40,000 circulars had been issued by the Anti-Maynooth Committee, in one week, in order to procure petitions against it. He commented with great indignation on another circular, issued by the Executive Council of the same body, for the purpose of influencing the votes of members of parliament—a document in which the writers spoke with great uncharitableness of the Roman Catholic religion and its professors, and in which there was a great assumption of honesty for themselves, and a still greater imputation of dishonesty cast upon their opponents. He showed that the Dissenters who were parties to that circular had spoken, only a year ago, when the Education bill was before parliament, with quite as much acrimony of the bishops of the church of England, as they now spoke of the clergy of the church of Rome. The successor of the celebrated Robert Hall, of Leicester, had said that he would as soon intrust his children to the care of a polar bear, or to the protection of a hyena, as to the tender mercies of the English bishops; and one of his colleagues had declared that the cause of religious freedom and education had no bitterer foes than the clergy of the church of England. The hon. member then entered into a general defence of the measure, contending that the regeneration of the people of Ireland must be accomplished through the agency of ministers of their own faith, rather than under the auspices of any general or district boards of education. He called upon Irish members to recollect themselves, and to impress it upon their fellow-countrymen that it was not English tyranny, but Irish agitation, that was the main impediment at present to the improvement of Ireland.

Mr MANGLES spoke in favour of the bill, and argued that a sense of religious obligation ought to induce its opponents to support it.

Mr ESCOTT followed, also in support of the bill, and then

Mr SPOONER, reiterating his former argument, that it was not a question of money, but of principle, quoted the words of the thirty-first article of the English church, designating some of the doctrines of the Roman Catholic church, as "blasphemous falsehoods and dangerous deceits." He argued the question as a religious one, and cited passages from the Maynooth text books, in order to prove their questionable morality.

Mr CHARLES BULLER had, on a previous occasion, advised Mr Wyse not to quote Luther, as he was sure to bring down a whole library of theology on his head. He regretted that Mr Spooner should have now, for the second time, flung in the face of his Roman Catholic brethren the words, "awful delusion," and should have picked out the most offensive passages from the Thirty-nine Articles, and other works, in order to wound their feelings. If there were any "awful delusion" in the case, it appeared to him to be on the part of Mr Spooner. He viewed the present bill not as an isolated measure, but, in connexion with the bill for academical education, as one which should receive the support of every friend to the union between the two countries. While all the more intelligent portion of the country were acknowledging their obligations to Sir Robert Peel for his attempts to pacify Ireland, he hoped that their gratitude would not forget those who had sacrificed office to their principles, and now felt it their duty to support a government which had supplanted them, when they found it pursuing the course which they considered to be right. The policy of the Melbourne government had extinguished the repeal agitation, because the Irish people felt confidence in it; a similar result would follow a similar course, framed not as acts of conciliation, but of justice. It was true, that in advocating the bill on its introduction, Sir Robert Peel had introduced certain awkward metaphors; but the Nemesis who presided over their debates had amply avenged the insult. The newly elected member for Peebles-shire had taken up the "small black cloud, no bigger than a man's hand;" and the first Lord of the Treasury had been punished in the last. They all knew, however, that the Maynooth bill had nothing more than a metaphorical connexion with the "black cloud;" and he trusted that the government would persevere in measures calculated to improve the material condition of Ireland, and to render it the glory and security of this country, instead of being its weakness and shame.

Sir VALENTINE BLAKE, who spoke from the ministerial side of the House, made some amusing observations in support of the bill.

Lord INGESTRE had formerly voted against the Maynooth grant, because he thought it "too small," but he thought now that the present grant would prove beneficial to the best interests of this country, as well as of Ireland. But he was desirous that the grant should be limited to five or seven years, and that a more effectual supervision over Maynooth should be established.

The adjournment of the debate was here moved, which, after some altercation, was agreed to.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A NEW WRIT was issued on Monday night for the election of a knight of the shire to serve for the county of Down, in the room of the Earl of Hillsborough, now called to the House of Peers as the Marquis of Downshire.

PETITIONS AGAINST THE MAYNOOTH GRANT still continue to pour into the House of Commons. On Thursday and Friday about two hundred were presented. On Monday, previous to the reading of the bill, nearly eight hundred petitions were laid upon the table of the House. Among these was one from the young men of London, objecting to all state endowments, signed by seven thousand persons. Mr Hindley presented eighty-two petitions from various parts of the country; then followed a large batch from Presbyterian congregations in Ireland, a great number presented by Sir R. Inglis, praying that the House would not make any grant to Maynooth, and one from Leeds by Mr S. Crawford, signed by 20,400 inhabitants, opposing all state endowments. Petitions in favour of the grant were presented by Sir Robert Peel, from the Protestant inhabitants of Limerick, and from eight other places in Ireland; by Mr Stanton, from Stroud; by Sir T. Fremantle, from Tunbridge Wells; and by other members.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Friday, May 16th.

Petitions were presented against the grant to Maynooth, by the Bishop of Gloucester, from Crickdale and other places; by Lord Kenyon (43); by the Earl of Liverpool; by the Archbishop of Canterbury; by the Earl of Radnor; by the Bishop of London, from several places in his lordship's diocese; by the Bishop of Cashel; by the Earl of Warwick; by the Earl of Roseberry, on behalf of the Duke of Sutherland; by Lord Farnham, the Bishop of Durham, Earl St Germans, the Earl of Winchelsea (6), and by Earl Roden. The latter nobleman also presented a petition in favour of the grant, in the prayer of which he said he entirely concurred. Earl St Germans and Lord Londonderry presented petitions to a like effect.

Several measures having been forwarded a stage, their lordships adjourned.

PETITIONS.—The Earl of STRADBROKE presented a petition against the grant to Maynooth. Petitions to the same effect were presented by the Bishop of St David's, by the Marquis of Breadalbane, and a large number by other noble lords.

LAW REFORM.

Lord BROUGHAM brought forward his bills for the amendment of the jurisdiction of the country. In the early part of his speech his lordship paid a high compliment to the members of the two law commissions, which, seventeen years back, had taken the lead in promoting law reform, and to those who had followed in their steps. But though much had been done, he said much still remained to do, and he proceeded to state a few cases in which the law was still defective. The noble lord began by commenting at great length on the state of the law of real property, and proposed a bill for facilitating its conveyance; one for facilitating the granting of leases, and one to render the assignment of satisfied terms unnecessary. His lordship next passed to the law of evidence, in which great and salutary reforms might be made; and proposed a bill to enable parties to be examined on the trial of civil actions, and another to facilitate the admission in the evidence of certain official and other documents. The noble lord also proposed a bill to give a remedy by way of declaratory suits, and one to further the administration of criminal justice. His lordship proceeded to point out that the law of marriage was in a most confused state; that an act consisting of three lines, passed last session, only rendered this confusion worse confounded; and proposed to bring in a bill for amending and declaring this part of the law. His Lordship concluded by calling the attention of the House to the state of the law of debtor and creditor. Now that imprisonment for debt was abolished, he thought that the houses of parliament should give up the privilege of not paying their debts. Why should members of parliament be the only persons in the empire exempted from satisfying the just demands of their creditors? He should bring in a bill making them liable to pay their debts out of their property, and subjecting them to punishment if they fraudulently made away with it. He should call this bill an act for securing the real independence of parliament. He trusted he should see these measures pass, along with the general Registry Act, that for amending the criminal, and that for digesting the civil code. Could he see all this effected, he should rest happy and contented from his labours.

After a few remarks from Lord CAMPBELL, the bills, nine in number, were laid on the table and read a first time. Their lordships then adjourned.

General News.

FOREIGN.

The French West Indian colony of Guadaloupe, *haud ignara mali*, has sent a liberal contribution in aid of the sufferers by the late fire in Barbadoes. About two years ago, Guadaloupe was devastated by an earthquake, and then received a large sum from Barbadoes. The return just made has been the occasion of the most warm expressions of mutual good feeling by the inhabitants of the two colonies.

THE JESUITS IN FRANCE.—The *National* states that—"Shortly after the votes of the Chamber of Deputies relative to religious congregations, M. Martin du Nord, the Minister of Justice, had sent for the celebrated preacher Father Ravignan, and endeavoured to reason him into acquiescence in the desire of the assembly, and to prevail upon him to consent to a compromise which would satisfy the clergy and place his own responsibility under cover. The Minister represented to M. Ravignan, that 'after the decision of the Chamber, he could no longer wink at the existence of unauthorised religious com-

munities'—that 'his zeal for the interests of the Church gave him a right to expect that the clergy would assist him in a position so delicate'—and that he relied on his co-operation to induce the congregation in the Rue des Postes to dissolve itself and join the great body of the clergy. M. Ravignan replied to M. Martin, that if, as a minister, he was obliged to abide by the decisions of the Legislature, the pious cenobites of that community were under obligations to the Holy See, to religion and to themselves, far more sacred than worldly interests, and that they could not acquiesce in any such terms. The discussion becoming warmer by degrees, M. Martin threatened to have recourse to the administrative measures recommended by the Chamber, when Father Ravignan declared to him, that the Jesuits of the Rue des Postes were determined to wait the result, and yield only to the power of bayonets."

SWITZERLAND.—The Lucerne government has intimated to the Vorort that it is disposed to deal mercifully with the prisoners condemned for their share in the late events, and especially to spare the life of Dr Steiger, on condition that he shall be transported from Europe to America.

Algiers and its neighbourhood have been much infested with locusts.

GREECE AND TURKEY.—By advices from Constantinople of the 30th ult. we learn that the Greek government, or those acting under its authority, have wantonly invaded a portion of the Turkish dominions, and that the consequence has been a collision between the troops of the two countries, in which several men were killed on both sides. The Porte has demanded redress for this outrage and invasion of its territory.

THE MORMONS.—A traveler from Nauvoo, or the holy city of the Mormons, has brought accounts of a revelation received in relation to the temple. The work on that structure was to be entirely suspended for the present, and the whole energy of the saints was to be devoted to the building of a wall or rampart around the edifice. The wall was to enclose six acres, the temple being in the centre. It was to be fourteen feet high, six feet thick, and composed of solid stone masonry. The work has already been commenced, and hundreds of hands were employed in carrying it forward.

The South American papers announce that the treaty between Great Britain and Brazil, under which the right of search has been exercised, expired by lapse of time on the 13th of March last. It is stated also that the Brazilian government will not permit the renewal of this right, and that a new treaty is in course of negotiation. The Court of Mixed Commission is to have six months to decide on pending cases.

HORRIBLE STORY.—We learn from indubitable authority that Mrs Holloway, wife of Mr — Holloway, of Person county (who was once a member of our legislature), having prevailed on her husband, one day last week, to tie the hands of one of their negro women, beat and tortured her to death. It is said that she heated a pan-handle red hot and ran it down the negro's throat, besides burning her lips to a crisp. This horrid tale, about the burning, seems too incredible to be believed, and we mention it, on the authority of rumour, without vouching for its accuracy. The negro was privately buried, eight feet deep, in an obscure place, and Mr and Mrs Holloway made their escape to parts unknown to their neighbours—doubtless to Texas. Whether Mr Holloway was accessory to the murder further than to tie the negro, we are not apprised.—*Richmond Star*, April 24.

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

The sixth annual general meeting of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society, for the abolition of slavery and the slave trade throughout the world, was held on Saturday, at the Hall of Commerce, Threadneedle street. The room appropriated to public meetings was nearly filled by a highly respectable assemblage, about two-thirds being ladies. At 12 o'clock the chair was taken by

Mr J. J. GURNEY, who opened the business of the day by noticing the importance of maintaining in operation an intelligent, industrious, and effective committee, not only by the support of the purse, but by the support of a fellow-feeling. He hoped to see the day when that support would be what it was in days past, during the great struggle for the abolition of slavery in our own colonies. We must regard ourselves as citizens of the world; and, indeed, circumstances now brought the nations of it much nearer to one another than they formerly were [hear, hear]. The transfer of labourers, as they were called, from the coast of Africa, to the colonies of European powers, must be denounced as being practically a slave trade. Holland, for instance, had been enlisting negro soldiers on the Gold coast, and taken them to Java, there to fight the battles of the Dutch; and on examination it was found that the preparatory steps in Africa for obtaining them were precisely identical with those of the slave trade itself. These things required to be watched, and the government must be plied with such information. Our minister at the Hague completely failed in his negotiation for putting an end to that practice, and it was accomplished by the philanthropists of England, though the King of Holland certainly put it upon a wrong ground, for he gave it up because they made such bad soldiers [a laugh]. In France there was great opportunity for forming now a sound public opinion on this subject; anti-slavery meetings were allowed, the people were will-

ing to listen, and the speeches of M. de Gasparin in the Chamber of Deputies had excited great attention. Things also were hopeful in Denmark, and even in Holland, though nothing could exceed the horrors of slavery in Surinam [hear, hear]. The eyes of the world were upon our great experiment in the West Indies; and he thought it was going on well. Considering the shortening of the hours of labour, the progress of agricultural knowledge, and the vast impulse of freedom on the human mind, those colonies might yet be expected to prove that freedom was more politic than slavery; and, if South America could be convinced that emancipation would answer well to the pocket, difficulties would soon be overcome [hear, hear].

Mr SCOBLE then read the year's Report, which began by deploring that four hundred thousand Africans were still annually kidnapped for the slave markets, of the Spanish colonies, Brazil, Egypt, Turkey, Persia, Arabia, and India. The number of slaves was calculated to be, at least—in the United States, 2,750,000; in Brazil, 2,500,000; in the Spanish colonies, 800,000; in the South American republics, 400,000; in the French colonies, 250,000; in the Dutch, Danish, and Swedish colonies, 100,000; in Texas, 30,000; total, 6,830,000. The Report then proceeded to notice the state of our own colonies. In India, though slavery was abolished by law, it was doubtful whether the bulk of the slaves had as yet been set free in fact, except in the Tenasserim provinces, and in portions of the Madras presidency. In Hongkong freedom was happily established by a law of the 28th of February, 1844—an admirable example to all China. With regard to emigration to the British emancipated colonies, the committee would strenuously oppose it. As to the introduction of Coolies into the Mauritius, at the end of March, 1844 (there having been introduced since the 1st of January, 1843, 35,177 men, 4,530 women, and 1,449 children), the government arranged to allow the annual importation of 6,000 Indian labourers, exclusive of women and children; and from that time to September 30, 1844, there were imported 1,935 men, 355 women, and 203 children; but, not content with this, the Legislative Council of the Mauritius had passed a law for the importation, under the license of the governor, of negroes from all parts of the coast of Africa not within British jurisdiction—that is, for re-opening the African slave trade. Jamaica, British Guiana, and Trinidad, were also receiving, at the expense of the taxpayers of those three colonies, labourers from Sierra Leone, and the two latter colonies were about also to have an importation of Coolies. The emancipated West India colonies were steadily, though slowly, advancing in prosperity. In the riots in Dominica great blame attached to the authorities in not explaining the object of taking the census. In Trinidad an ordinance had passed which, if allowed by her Majesty in council, would deprive servants of the protection they enjoyed in the powers of the stipendiary magistrates. As to the sugar question, the committee continued anxious to exclude from the British market every article of slave produce, and equally solicitous that the free produce of all nations should come in on equal terms with that of the British possessions. It was hoped that British subjects removed from our colonies to Cuba and Surinam, contrary to the 46th of George III., c. 62, would still be rescued from slavery there; the laws in South America, also, affecting our coloured fellow subjects, were contrary to treaties with us. During the year the Moravian Missionary Society had liberated its slaves in the Danish colonies, and was also doing so in Surinam. Efforts must be made to extend the cultivation of tropical productions by free labour in India, as the most efficient weapon against slave labour. The Report then noticed the leading foreign operations of the year, and, after strongly deprecating the annexation of Texas to America, made honourable mention of the emancipation by Sweden of the slave population in its colony of St Bartholomew, condemned the conduct of British slaveholders in the Dutch colony of Surinam, noticed that in Brazil, criminal as the vast importation of slaves was, the great slave dealers were not the native Brazilians, but foreigners, and that both there and in the Spanish colonies at least two-thirds of the slave population were entitled to their freedom by the law of the place, and under the treaties with this country.

Mr J. BEECHAM, secretary of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, then moved the adoption of the Report and re-appointment of officers, which was seconded by Mr R. CADBURY, of Birmingham, and carried unanimously (as were all the resolutions); the latter gentleman observing that the emancipated slaves in our colonies would become the chief proprietors there.

Mr BURNET, of Camberwell, moved, and Mr J. EATON seconded the motion—

"That, in view of the continued existence of the African slave trade, which, notwithstanding the costly sacrifices of this country to suppress it, is carried on to an enormous extent and with unexampled ferocity, this meeting feel it to be their duty to urge upon the abolitionists of every land the necessity of seeking, by those means which are of a purely moral, religious, and pacific nature, and with increased earnestness and diligence, the entire abolition of slavery, as the only certain mode of extinguishing this gigantic evil and its kindred abomination—the internal slave traffic—in countries where it unhappily prevails."

"That, as one great means for promoting the universal abolition of slavery and the slave trade, this meeting deem it of the very highest importance that every restriction on the free investment of capital in the soil, and every impost on the industry of the labourer, in British India, should be immediately removed; being persuaded that, in conjunction with the emancipated colonies, that part of the empire can raise tropical productions under an equitable system of revenue, by free labour, to any extent that may

be required, on terms that would greatly diminish, if not totally annihilate, the demand for the produce of slave labour both at home and abroad."

Mr Burnet, in moving this, took occasion to condemn the Coolie trade; the proportion of 100 men to 12 women proved that it was not meant they should be a society, but that they were imported as beasts of burden [hear, hear]. Slavery would be put down by public opinion; no one liked to have all honest men constantly proclaiming him a thief.

Mr G. W. ALEXANDER, treasurer, stated that the receipts of the Society during the year were £1,966; the balance in hand was £39; the chief expenditure had been in publications, the item next in amount being £634 for salaries of secretary and clerks. He then moved, and

Mr S. GURNEY seconded the motion—

"That this meeting view with sentiments of gratitude the present aspect of the anti-slavery cause throughout the world, and rejoice that the great principles on which it is based are more extensively diffused and better understood than at any former period of its history; that among its triumphs, during the past year, they regard with high satisfaction the decision of the King and the Diet of Sweden to emancipate the slave population of its colonial dependency in the West Indies; and that, confiding in the justice of that cause, and above all, in the Divine blessing on the untiring and increasing efforts of its friends, they look forward with unwavering confidence to the period when, overcoming all opposing obstacles, it shall deliver the whole human family from the curse and degradation of slavery."

"That this meeting regard with feelings of the deepest regret and abhorrence the recent conduct of the United States in its criminal attempt to extend and consolidate the system of slavery on the American continent by the annexation of Texas to its present vast possessions, and would urgently call on the friends of liberty and religion in that country to use their utmost efforts to prevent the realisation of so iniquitous a measure."

Mr W. KNIBB, the Baptist missionary in Jamaica, moved—

"That whilst this meeting have no intention whatever of interfering with the free and spontaneous emigration of labourers to the British emancipated colonies, at the expense of the parties to be benefited thereby, they regard with increasing hostility the schemes now sanctioned by government for supplying them with Asiatic and African labourers, as unjust in principle, evil in example, immoral in tendency, and of more than doubtful expediency, and would earnestly recommend to the friends of humanity and religion throughout the country to offer them their most vigorous and united opposition."

Mr Knibb proceeded to denounce the importation of Hill Coolies into Jamaica; he trembled at the awful influence they would have upon its youthful population. The introduction was unnecessary; what was needed was, not labourers, but the removal of unjust restrictions and taxation upon the peasantry, and fair wages for their labour. Immediately on the introduction of freedom into Jamaica two laws were passed, intending to cramp their rising liberties; an ejectment act, by which 300,000 human beings could be turned out of the cottages they inhabited when slaves at a week's notice; and a law empowering an armed police to take them up as trespassers, if found upon their premises afterwards. The missionaries then advised the population to obtain homes of their own; and at the last census it was found that 19,000 of them (amounting, with their families, to a third of the labouring classes) had purchased small freeholds, and partially paid for them, and in many instances quite. But as soon as this project was discovered, the stamp on the transfer was increased from 3s. to 10s., and retrospectively if the title had not been recorded, the former stamp being made null, although paid for, and a new 10s. stamp required. Next, as the negro, having bought his land, had to build, a new tariff was passed, reducing the tax on the red and white oak staves, with which the planters made their puncheons for the rum and sugar, from 12s. to 2s. a thousand, but raising the tax on shingles (to cover the roofs) from 1s. to 8s., and 4s., and increasing the duty on white pine and pitch pine lumber, and on the peasant's food, which was necessarily chiefly imported. The duty on flour (of which 113,616 barrels came in in 1844, almost all from America) was raised from 4s. to 6s.; on corn meal (of which 32,337 barrels came in last year), from 3d. per barrel to 3s.; on rice (of which 14,077 bags were brought in), from 1s. per cwt to 4s.; on salt fish (of which 150,000 cwt were brought in), from nil to 2s. per cwt.; on all pork (the tax during slavery being only on salt pork, viz., 2s. a barrel, weighing 12 cwt), 15s. a barrel, 5s. more being levied by Great Britain if it came from America; and of this article, during the last year, 27,106 barrels came in from America, and 4,718 from the United Kingdom. The taxation levied on these imports, consumed by the labouring population, had risen from £127,000 in 1842, to £192,517 in 1844. At the same time wages were reduced from 2s. a day to 1s. 6d., and the planters took off the tax upon their dwellings on sugar estates; the produce of all this taxation being applied to immigration of labourers who were not required, to the maintenance of a useless police, and to the support of a religion from which nine-tenths of the people dissented. In Trelawney, last year, the labouring population could only obtain three days' work in the week, and at 1s. a day; and on the railroad (from Kingston to the Angels) but 7s. a week was paid. It must be in Jamaica as in Cuba, where they manufactured more cheaply, because the proprietors managed their own property: a model estate was about to be conducted on this plan in Jamaica [hear, hear]. As to emigration from Great Britain, the toil under a burning sun was soon fatal. *Blackwood's Magazine* had stated that the Irish labourer got but 1s. a day, like the negro; but, owing to this Jamaica tariff, the Irishman could buy for 1s. what would cost the negro 3s. 6d. But this was a last attempt to crush the

infant free man. The negro freeholds now gave votes: the present House of Assembly would soon pass away, and, if no others could be found, the missionaries would go into the House themselves; they had got a hold of the people, and were determined the peasantry should not be crushed [cheers]. There was much of promise: in Jamaica, once the den of licentiousness, there had been married in the last four years, from 1841 to 1844—by Baptist missionaries, 8,446 couples; Wesleyan Methodists, 5,120; Association, 430; native, 21; Moravians, 2,839; Presbyterians, 2,382; London Missionary Society, 554; Roman Catholics, 3; established church, 8,294 [cheers].

Mr E. DAVIES, from Berbice, seconded the motion, and stated that immigration there was unnecessary, the wages not exceeding 1s. 4d. for seven hours and a half of labour, and there being no scarcity of men, except where the planters had driven the people away, by refusing to let them acquire houses of their own. Five thousand Coolies were now being imported for five years into British Guiana; few would survive that period—but they would have driven away the best negroes, and alienated their affections. The African race and the Coolie race did not like each other.

Mr SCOBLE moved, and Mr LOUIS BELLOT seconded, the motion—

"That this meeting having learned with astonishment and regret, from official documents recently laid before parliament, that there are several thousands of British subjects held in slavery in the colonial possessions of Spain and the Netherlands, and that, owing to an alleged legal difficulty, her Majesty's government decline to press on those powers their immediate deliverance from the cruel and degrading bondage in which they are held. That, persuaded that these unhappy persons have an indefeasible right to their freedom, this meeting would respectfully urge on the government the necessity of reviewing the ground of their decision, and of taking such active measures for securing them their rights as British subjects, as should lead to their speedy restoration to their homes, and to the full enjoyment of the privileges of the emancipated classes in the British colonies."

Mr J. SHERMAN moved, and Mr T. SMITH, of Sheffield, seconded, a vote of thanks to the Chairman, and the meeting broke up shortly before 4 o'clock.

THE LEAGUE BAZAAR.—Remarks have been made that the bazaar is not so complete an exposition of national manufactures as all have wished and many have anticipated. But the bazaar itself will not be complete until it is concluded; the goods are in the theatre, but were the building five times its present size, it would not admit of the display of the varied contributions at one time. It is one of the undesigned attractions, because it is a physical necessity of the bazaar, that it must have a fresh display of novelties every day, and that the immense quantity of goods in store cannot possibly be brought out until the sale of others has made room for their exhibition. It will be seen, from the ample details which we have elsewhere given, that, even under existing circumstances, the exposition of the products of combined art, skill, and taste is superior to anything that has ever been seen in Great Britain, and, if allowances be made for the limited space which alone the Council can command, is fully equal to the national expositions got up at the expense of the public exchequers by the governments of the continent. The public press of London, with all but universal voice, has borne testimony to the beauty of the decorations and the excellence of the arrangements; the provincial papers have added their testimony to the opinions of their metropolitan brethren, and with unusual unanimity declared that the exposition is in the best sense of the word truly national. Of the success of the bazaar we have only to say that it has far exceeded the most sanguine expectations. So great was the pressure of the crowds on Tuesday and Wednesday that thousands went away unable to obtain admittance; and it was found necessary to raise the charge of admission to half-a-crown, in order to prevent the danger of accidents to life or limb. The higher price has very slightly diminished the number of visitors, for while we write the hall is closely crowded, and the sales are proceeding with great activity and spirit. To prevent any inaccuracy, it has been resolved not to publish any statement of receipts until the close of the bazaar.—*League*. On Wednesday (says the *Morning Chronicle*) the entrance to the theatre in Bow street was besieged throughout the day by crowds of visitors, who sought admittance to the bazaar. Many went away rather than wait for their turn of admission, and those who did wait had to submit to a bit-by-bit entrance at the iron gates in the street. The folding doors in the hall, and the iron bars on the stairs were, from time to time, open to admit them. Never was such a sight seen on the face of the great globe as that within the house, and seldom, if ever, has such a sight been seen as that without. Not but that crowds have many a time before sought admission into places of public exhibition—even into this theatre; but the kind of people composing the Covent Garden multitudes of yesterday, and the occasion of their meeting together, are altogether unprecedented. The people were from all counties in the kingdom, and from more kingdoms than our own. We mingled with them for a considerable period in the street purposely to ascertain who and what they were, and what they thought of the great cause which had brought them there, and what of the rumours of that exhibition which they had not then seen. The people were of every class in English society, and they spoke in every dialect of the English language. Perhaps the Yorkshire and Lancashire formed a majority among them; and, though we may presume that persons who work for weekly

wages, or who daily conduct the industrious bustle of the shop and the warehouse, were there in greatest number, still we can only reason so from supposition, not from appearances. The very superior style of dressing observable among the country people was a subject of general remark among the Londoners. The provinces, in fact, gave us their dialects in all their Doric strength and roughness, whilst they adorned their representatives in all the fashion of Corinthian elegance. With regard to the contents of the bazaar, the *Chronicle* says:—"So far from goods being collected from shopkeepers at a price, the goods to be returned if not sold, the bales and boxes remaining to be opened every day since the bazaar began have been matter of great trouble and anxiety to the committee of management. The number of them, the great bulk of their contents, and the high respect the parties are held in who sent them there, as free gifts to free trade, tended to create anxiety, for it was utterly impossible to exhibit one half of them. The low prices at which most of these goods are sold should convince every one that they are free gifts. Besides, the greater part of them have been made for the occasion. Their patterns tell that. It is more likely that shopkeepers might buy articles here to sell again; the prices charged at the Manchester, Bradford, Huddersfield, Barnsley, Dunfermline, Glasgow, and several other stalls, are proofs of that." The one shilling charge of admittance was again resumed on Monday, and will probably be continued. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday the bazaar will be open until ten instead of seven o'clock in the evening. What with the sale of admission tickets, and sales at the various stalls, the average daily income is expected considerably to exceed £2,000 for one-and-twenty days running.

NATIONAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.—The friends of temperance, constituting the "National Society," held their anniversary meeting at Exeter hall last evening. The body of the room, as well as the platform, was well filled, the members of the Society of Friends forming a considerable proportion of the auditory. The chair was taken shortly after six o'clock, by Mr S. B. Bowley, during the unavoidable absence of Mr J. J. Gurney, who arrived and occupied that post at a later period of the meeting. The Secretary, Mr Compton, read a number of letters from various well-known advocates of temperance who were unable to attend, and then submitted the third annual Report of the Society, in which was introduced a letter from Father Mathew, addressed to the Secretary, and reporting the progress of the cause in Ireland. In reference to the exertions recently made to extricate him from his embarrassment, he wrote, "Whilst I feel myself overwhelmed with the weight of your bounty, I am perfectly convinced that it is not on me, but on the sacred cause of temperance, that this munificent donation has been bestowed. Circumstances to which it is unnecessary to allude, have rendered the subscription in Ireland comparatively small, and for the sum of £8,300 I am principally indebted to the high-minded generous people of England." Father Mathew concluded his letter by the following allusion to his affairs:—"Having, some time since, by the sacrifice of personal and family property, by insurances and other securities, raised money to pay the medal manufacturers (my only creditors), the above sum will enable me to extricate myself from all my embarrassments, and place myself in the same position in which I stood before I entered on the temperance mission. The Report presented a variety of statistics, showing the active labours of the temperance missionaries; but the accounts exhibited a small balance against the Society. The meeting was addressed at length by Mr Buckingham, Mr S. C. Hall, Mr J. Burns, Mr Collins, Mr Heyworth, Dr Oxley, Mr H. Vincent (who was received with more than ordinary enthusiasm), Mr J. Collings, of Philadelphia, Mr M'Kerrow, Mr Livesey, Mr Teare, Mr Logan, &c. The resolutions were of the usual character, expressing confidence in the proceedings of the national as well as the provincial associations—thanks to God for the success attending their exertions—and proposing measures to insure accurate returns from all parts of the globe of the real progress of teetotalism through the medium of agents. After the passing of the first resolution, a collection was made in the room in a way rendering evasion almost impossible. On a signal being given from the chair, the collectors sprang up from their seats in all parts of the hall, and in less than ten minutes every person present had at least an opportunity of contributing to the exchequer. The amount collected was £50, besides a donation of £50 by the chairman, and some others equally liberal from the chief occupants of the platform. The proceedings throughout were of the most orderly character, and did not terminate until nearly eleven o'clock.

THE LITERARY FUND.—The fifty-sixth anniversary of the Literary Fund was celebrated by a dinner at Freemasons' tavern, on Wednesday. The Earl of Ellenborough presided; and several eminent patrons and cultivators of literature were present, a hundred in number. The peculiarity of the evening was a strong infusion of politics, apropos to Lord Ellenborough's Indian administration and the attacks made upon him; the Earl and Lord Brougham reciprocating compliments with amazing enthusiasm of eulogy.

MORTALITY IN THE METROPOLIS.—The total number of deaths registered in the metropolitan districts during the week ending May 10, was 829—a return which exhibits a decrease on both the vernal and annual averages, in which the numbers were respectively 888 and 963. In the class of zymotic (epidemic, endemic, and contagious) diseases, the weekly return presents a marked decrease on both averages; the numbers being 131, 163, 184.

GRAND BANQUET TO PRINCE ALBERT.—On Saturday evening, the prime warden, masters, and court of assistants of the Goldsmiths' company, gave a most magnificent entertainment to Prince Albert, her Majesty's ministers, &c., at their hall, in Foster lane, City. Amongst the company were Prince George of Cambridge, the Duke of Wellington, Sir R. Peel, and most of the cabinet ministers.

The annual meeting of the Protestant Association took place at Exeter hall on Wednesday; and the attendance was very numerous; the Earl of Winchester presiding. Maynooth formed the chief subject of discussion; and the principal speaker on that point was Mr J. R. M'Ghee, who denounced the doctrines taught at the college.

An address has been presented to Mr Thomas Duncombe, by a deputation from the Polish National committee, thanking him for his conduct in the matter of the letter-opening at the Post office, with especial reference to the cases of M. Stolzman and M. Worcel.

BRITISH MUSEUM.—The number of visitors during the three last holidays was 63,549, exceeding those of last year by 14,980.

In the court of Queen's Bench, on Friday, judgment was given in the case of Howard v. Gossett, an action brought against the Sergeant-at-arms, of the House of Commons, for false imprisonment. To that action a demurrer was raised; Mr Justice Wightman and Mr Justice Coleridge were of opinion that the proceedings under the speaker's warrant were bad, and that judgment must be entered for the plaintiff. Mr Justice Williams differed from his learned brethren. Lord Denman delivered a very elaborate opinion, and as a principle of vital importance was involved, in which the security of the subject was affected, he considered that the judgment of the court ought to be for the plaintiff.

MAGISTERIAL DISCRETION.—At Wandsworth police court, on Thursday, "a military looking man," a hoary veteran of three score years or so, who gave the name and address "Charles Bell, 13, Parliament street, gentleman," was charged with, and confessed to have committed, a gross and indecent assault upon an innocent girl of the tender age of ten years. The wealthy miscreant, having doubtless, like another military gentleman, a Mr Murray, who was brought up for a brutal assault at another police office, on a former day, "a roll of notes" in his pocket, and probably an engagement to dinner in town, begged the magistrate, Mr Clive, to inflict upon him any fine he thought proper, and to let him go. The worthy magistrate, however, refused—he maintained the dignity of the law, most ably in words, but how by his acts? After a great deal of passionate appeal on the one side, and stoical fortitude on the other, Mr Clive ordered the wealthy prisoner to find bail in two sureties in the enormous amount of £25!—Another "gentleman" was on the same day brought up at Bow street for attempting to pass a bad sovereign at the League bazaar, and having nine others in his possession. Mr Twyford went boldly against all evidence, and discharged the prisoner—because—why, does the reader think?—because he, Mr Twyford, "recognised him as an old friend," having frequently dined in his company!

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.—A society for the abolition of capital punishments has been formed in the metropolis, the object of which will be the distribution of tracts, the holding of public meetings, the delivery of lectures, petitioning parliament, and all other legal means for agitating the public mind upon the subject. It is intended to apply to Lord Nugent to act as president.

MESMERISM.—On Tuesday evening Mr Spencer Hall commenced a series of lectures on Mesmerism at the Aldersgate Street Literary and Scientific Institution, where, to judge from the numerous assembly of ladies and gentlemen, and from the applause bestowed by them on the lecturer from time to time, this great magic power, by some called the "black art," seems to find as many firm believers and supporters as it has elsewhere met with sceptics and opponents. After an historical introduction, Mr Hall proceeded, by various experiments, to show the influence this power has over the human race. He produced four lads, all of whom, he honestly said, he had had some time under his care. These boys were, one after another, mesmerised, and were made, while under the mesmeric influence, to go through various kinds of performances. One had only his arm mesmerised, or put in an abnormal state; and so stiff did the arm become that the strongest man in the theatre could not bend it; but when Mr Hall bent his own arm, the lad, although his arm was held very tight by one of the audience, immediately placed his in the same position. Music was then tried, and its effect upon the boys was striking. A stirring march was played, when they immediately showed fight, and became very desirous of having it out at once. The music was changed to Rousseau's Dream, when all the boys fell into attitudes of prayer and of veneration. Some of their attitudes, for they changed them frequently, were studies for the artist. They were all graceful. When the music stopped one of the boys became very impatient, and manifested an extreme desire that it should recommence. One of them then mesmerised another, and the same effect was produced as if it had been done by the lecturer. The lecturer then mesmerised the youngest of the boys, and then touched whatever bump any person in the audience requested, and the effect was immediately visible; for instance, the bump of imitation was touched, and the boy immediately imitated everything that was said or done in the theatre; one gentleman recited, in German, a part of Schiller's poem, "Die Glocke," and the boy repeated it after him word for word, and with a tolerable accent. Dutch he also repeated, and we understood that

upon a previous occasion he had in like manner repeated French, Latin, Italian, Greek, Hebrew, Hindostanee, and one or two other languages. The same boy was then told to imagine himself, or rather to dream of a locomotive steam engine. After a few seconds he whistled aloud, and then imitated all the noise of a locomotive starting from the station, whirling one of his arms round at a very rapid rate; he was told that he had overshot the station, upon which he immediately reversed the motion of the arm, and brought it up at the proper place. With these, and other experiments, Mr S. Hall illustrated his subject, and was, to all appearance, entirely successful. Mr Hall concluded his lecture by warning all persons who might endeavour to use the power, if they possessed it, to be very careful what they did. A gentleman, towards the end of the performance, stepped forward from the body of the audience, and requested to be mesmerised. Mr Hall, after some objections, endeavoured to comply with the request; but, after going through all the usual motions, the person declared that he had not slept at all: he had felt, however, as if a cold air was blowing through all his bones, and when his arms were raised up by the operator, he said he felt as if he were plunged into cold water. After some little discussion the lecture closed, with the announcement that it would be continued next week.

THE LATE EXPLOSION AT BLACKWALL.—Mr Lowe, engineer, was acquitted of the crime of manslaughter with which he stood convicted, on account of the late steam boiler explosion at Blackwall, after trial in the Central Criminal court on Wednesday. Baron Alderson, who presided, gave it as his opinion that "the explosion was quite an accident, and that Mr Lowe was in no way to blame in the matter."

SUSPECTED MURDER.—On Saturday morning the body of Mr John Cunningham, tailor, of 24, Holywell street, was found by a policeman in a ditch near the Haverstock field, Hampstead, where Delarue was murdered. The hands of the deceased were full of mud, but there did not appear to be any external marks of violence except that the face appeared unusually swollen. The body will undergo a post mortem examination. The friends of the deceased state that he had been missed from home since Thursday morning last, and nothing had been heard of him until his description had been read in the papers. He has been in the habit of staying out very late in company and drinking freely, but he was never heard to threaten to destroy himself; and his being in the vicinity of Hampstead could not be accounted for, as he had no business that way.

THE ST GILES'S MURDER.—On Thursday, Joseph Connor was tried for the murder of Mary Brothers, in St Giles's, in March last. The evidence was generally of the same nature as that adduced before the police magistrate, at Bow street, and before the coroner, at the inquest, and not at all less loathsome. The trial turned upon the question of identity, the defence resting upon some weakness in the evidence on that point. Connor seems to have prepared for that kind of defence from the first. One of the witnesses deposed that, after the murder had been committed, he met Connor, who said he had given the woman "something;" on which, the witness said, "I suppose you have not killed her;" and Connor replied that he did not know, but he should go home and change his things, so that they might not know him. Another witness, the policeman against whom he ran, would not swear to his identity, though he strongly believed it. Three witnesses, examined for the prisoner, gave him a good character for humanity and kindness of disposition. In elucidation of his motives, it appears that he was about to be married to a cousin, but he delayed his marriage under the supposition that his health had been injured. The jury deliberated for three hours and a half, and then returned a verdict of "guilty." Sentence of death was passed on the prisoner, who was quite overcome by the verdict.

THE GREENWICH MURDER.—On Friday, Martha Brixley was tried for the murder of Mr Finch's infant son, and acquitted, on the score of insanity. The prisoner has been in consequence ordered to be detained during her Majesty's pleasure, and she will be sent to Bethlehem hospital.

PROVINCIAL.

TENANT-FARMERS AND HIGH RENTS.—A public meeting of landowners and tenant-farmers of Staffordshire, convened by the committee of the Agricultural Protection Society, was held at Stafford on Wednesday, "to take into consideration the present distressed state of the agricultural interest, and to petition parliament for an increased duty on corn and wheat imported from Canada, and a revision of the tariff so far as it respects agriculture." The meeting was numerously and influentially attended; but everything did not go quite smoothly. In the first place, Lord Ingestre, who had been called to the chair, avowed that he had voted for the tariff of 1842 and the Canada Corn bill, and doubted whether the petition could have any practical result. That cast some damp upon the proceedings. They were enlivened by Mr Fryer, formerly member for Wolverhampton, who declared the causes of agricultural distress to be low prices of produce and high rents, asked farmers whether they could pay their rents (which elicited frequent cries of "No!"), and called upon them to speak out like men. Lord Ingestre thought that if rents were entirely abolished, that would not materially benefit the tenant. A farmer: "Try it, my lord." Viscount Ingestre: "Perhaps you would wish the landlords to be entirely without money: if so, what are we to do?" A farmer: "Same as we do, my lord—make shift." [loud laughter]. The proposed petition was carried by an overwhelming majority. In commenting on this meeting, the Times remarks:—

A reduction of rents, indeed! Are noblemen and gentlemen to toil and fag for the welfare of the community, and to be out of pocket for their trouble? Is it not enough that they are scared nearly out of their intellects by the hideous phantasm of an anti-corn-law bazaar at Covent Garden? Must they further be told of reducing their rents, diminishing their expenditure, clipping their establishments, curtailing their entertainments, decimating their dishes, discharging their supernumeraries, and, in short, abridging, in every unnatural manner, the necessary comforts of their very existence? Well might the noble chairman manifest a tremulous anxiety for their fate, if such a scheme were ever matured. Well might he demand what was to become of them? what were they to do? Unjust and cruel extremity suggested by the plain-spoken farmer in reply—"Same as we do, my lord—make shift!"

Genius of aristocracy, what an idea! What language! What a comparison! Enough to make one shudder. But, to bring this proposal for bettering the condition both of tenant and labourer, by reducing rents to their proper issue, as there is nothing like the practical test of an argument, we cordially urge the adoption of the farmer's advice—"Try it."

GOOD EXAMPLE.—On Tuesday (to wind up the festivities of Whit-Monday) the whole of the hands (1200 in number) employed in the works of Messrs Horrocks, Jackson, and Co., of this town, were kindly treated by their esteemed employers with a trip to Fleetwood.—*Preston Chronicle*.

RAILWAY EXCURSIONS.—Our north-country friends made a right worthy use of the Whitsun holidays. From all the large manufacturing towns of Yorkshire and Lancashire on Whit Monday special trains poured forth their thousands of Sunday scholars to enjoy the pleasure of a short excursion—not in small batches, but from 500 to 2,000 at a time. Upwards of 3,000 children have visited Wakefield from Manchester, Bradford, Halifax, &c., by the cheap trains of the Manchester and Leeds railway, during the Whitsuntide holidays. The Manchester and Liverpool railway tried for the first time last week the plan of running cheap third-class trains, and carried nearly 10,000 persons. The Manchester and Birmingham in one day carried 20,000 persons, and the Leeds and Manchester the same number daily. The free-trade bazaar train, from Liverpool to London, consisted of twenty-five carriages, with about 300 passengers, and from other towns in a like proportion.

The committee for parks in Manchester have purchased for a public park the Endham hall estate, including the hall, conservatory, and out-buildings, and about thirty acres of land, for £7,250.

THE NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE COAL TRADE.—The regulations so long established by the coalowners of the north of England, in respect to the supply of coal to the London market, are now at an end, and henceforth the inhabitants of the metropolis may expect to be supplied with that indispensable article of domestic use on more reasonable terms than formerly. The circumstances out of which this state of things has arisen are manifold, but confined chiefly to the trade itself. Many of the large coalowners having refused to bind themselves to the proposed conditions, which have been some time under revision by the coal trade committee, after several meetings and much discussion, the committee have determined to leave the trade open.

A STRIKE AMONG AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.—The labourers of two parishes, near Yeovil, struck on Saturday last for wages. Their earnings amounted to the munificent sum of seven shillings per week, which was reduced to six. They had an interview with the leading proprietor, and returned to their work, but the matter is not settled, the farmers refusing to give more, on the plea that their rent has been advanced.—*Western Times*.

AWFUL VISITATION.—A man, named Evans, who for some time had filled the situations of stage-manager and performer at Mr George Bramwell's Theatrical gallery, Jolly Hatters, Hillgate, Stockport, fell down dead while in the act of performing a part, on Tuesday night, in which he represented the semblance of death. Restoratives were had recourse to, but he was taken up quite dead, effusion of blood to the head being the cause of death. An inquest was held on the body on Wednesday afternoon.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

SINGULAR OCCURRENCE.—During the thunder storm on Saturday last, a remarkable circumstance occurred to two sisters, daughters of a professional gentleman of this city. One of them was at a house in Bristol, when the lightning entered the drawing-room in which she was sitting, and struck her on the head, causing a lump to rise upon it almost instantaneously, depriving her of the sight of the left eye for a considerable time, and drawing the mouth aside, as if she had been attacked by paralysis. We are happy to learn, that with the exception of a degree of numbness on the left side, she has recovered from the effects of the injury. Her sister was at a friend's house, about five miles from this city, and at nearly the same period at which the above occurrence took place, the lightning entered the room in which she and the family were at dinner, the paper was torn from the walls, part of the skirting-boards also torn away, and a gun which was in the room (happily charged with powder only) exploded; but most providentially none of the party sustained any personal injury.—*Bristol Journal*.

VERDICT OF MANSLAUGHTER AGAINST A DRUGGIST.—Mr Welch, a druggist, at Stourbridge, Worcester-shire, has been committed to prison on a charge of having occasioned the death of two young children by an immoderate application of corrosive sublimate for the cure of ring-worm.

THE LATE CATASTROPHE AT YARMOUTH.—The coroner's jury reassembled on Saturday, when a letter from the Home Secretary was read, stating "that Mr James Walker, a civil engineer of eminence, will arrive at Great Yarmouth on Tuesday

morning next, and, after having inquired into the causes connected with the falling of the suspension bridge over the river Bure, he will be prepared to assist the coroner and jury with his evidence." Further proceedings were, therefore, suspended until this day. The writer of the horrible letter, originally published in a provincial journal, is to be summoned to the jury, to corroborate or deny his statement.

INCENDIARISM.—Our readers will learn with satisfaction that the constabulary for this county are in possession of most important information in connexion with a number of the late fires wilfully occasioned in this county, and that several suspected parties are already in custody. The force have been privately engaged in tracing the authors of the diabolical acts, and have at last succeeded in obtaining information which will convince all, that, however secretly such acts are effected, as the parties concerned may imagine, sooner or later the perpetrators will be brought to justice. — *Chelmsford Chronicle*.

DEPLORABLE MURDER.—The retired and beautiful little village of Stourton, in Wiltshire, has been thrown into a state of painful alarm, by the discovery of a cruel murder committed early in the evening of the 8th inst, on John Peacock, an unoffending inhabitant of Stourton, who was found shot in the grounds belonging to the rectory house. Two suspicious-looking persons were seen, a short time before, not far from the spot; the one a dark, morose-looking man, dressed in a shabby suit of black, and having much the appearance of a journeyman shoemaker. The other was a younger person respectably attired, apparently in a groom's stable dress, and having a gun in his hand, so that there is little doubt that they will turn out to have been the perpetrators of the horrid deed. Both are known, and the former has long borne but an indifferent character in his parish, and had been more than once heard to threaten the life of the deceased, with whom he was known to have been at enmity. Every exertion is being made to collect proof on the subject. A painful and distressing incident that occurred last autumn had added much to the interest that all were inclined to feel in the welfare of the deceased, in the neighbourhood. His wife, to whom he was most affectionately attached, disappeared from the village in a very mysterious way, and it is not known to this day whether she is alive or dead. She appears to have been forcibly abducted and carried away to London, and was last seen in Fleet street, near the banking-house of Messrs Hoare and Co., and the man in black, already described as the suspected murderer of her husband, is supposed to have had some hand in her extraordinary disappearance.

IRELAND.

MR O'CONNELL'S LEVEE.—The committee of the Repeal Association have issued a report recommending that Mr O'Connell and his fellow prisoners hold a levee at the Rotunda on the 30th of May, the anniversary of the day when they were "falsely" imprisoned; that an address be there presented to them; and that afterwards Mr O'Connell be conducted by a great procession to his own house.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT.—The *Dublin Evening Post* publishes an account of a remarkable conversation at the Home office, about the Queen's visit to Ireland. The Lord Mayor of Dublin came to town to present an address to the Queen, praying her Majesty to make the visit; and he had an interview with Sir James Graham on Monday. According to the report, the minister's manner was very cordial and friendly; and he promised to learn her Majesty's pleasure as to the day when she would receive the address on the throne. But he declared that, in spite of all rumours, the Queen's visit was as yet unsettled—her Majesty had never expressed such an intention to him. He then remarked on the way in which the rumours had been received in Ireland. At first all was joy; and he could not see why that tone should have been altered by any speech of a member of parliament. "He asked, how could it be expected that he would advise her Majesty to proceed to Ireland, after it had been announced that the horses under the royal carriage were to be affrighted in the streets of Dublin with the shouts of repeal—that the sound was to force like a shot into the royal councils—that certain gentlemen were to appear in their repeal uniform of the '82 Club at her Majesty's levee?" And he looked significantly at the Lord Mayor. Alderman O'Brien deprecated judging of the people by an article in a newspaper (the *Nation*). Sir James retorted with the speeches and resolutions of Conciliation hall. Then he passed to compliments on the corporation and its address, and on the undoubted loyalty of the Irish people; and he closed the conversation by saying he should probably learn the Queen's pleasure on Saturday.

There is every reason to believe that the Roman Catholic prelates of Ireland will meet in synod on Wednesday next (to-day), to take into consideration the question of academical education as propounded by government. — *Times*.

The *Tipperary Free Press* has come out in strong approbation of the government college measure: that journal is regarded as an organ of the Young England party, and its present course is assumed to corroborate rumours of a schism among the repealers. The *Nation*, which is the accredited organ of "Young Ireland," is also in favour of the measure.

MR SIDNEY HERBERT has set the liberal example which he recommended to the landed gentry of Ireland: he has perpetually endowed the parish priests for the time being of Irishtown and Booterstown, near Dublin, each with the sum of £100 per annum. — *Chronicle*.

It is announced that all the respectable booksellers of Dublin will close their houses of business at seven o'clock in the evening during the summer season.

THE REPEAL MOVEMENT.—Mr O'Connell is to leave town this day for Tara hall, the seat of Mr Lynch, where he remains on that night, and is to proceed next morning to Tara hill, from whence a procession will take place to Navan, where the repeal dinner is to be given in a pavilion fitted up for the purpose. "Precisely as was anticipated," says the *Times*, "the forthcoming gathering at 'Tara of the Kings' will in nowise fall short of the prodigious demonstration of physical force which took place there in the fever heat of the agitation two years since. It is now officially announced that Mr O'Connell will commence the day's proceedings by attending a mass, which is to be celebrated in the open air—a stimulant successfully applied in 1843, for the purpose of giving a religious tone to the movement, as well as to impress upon the peasantry more distinctly the fact of the clergy being heart and soul embarked with the lay leaders in the sedition attempt to sever the connexion between the two countries." In Cork, too, preparations in every way similar to those at Tara are in progress for the demonstration in that quarter. Mr O'Connell is to enter the city in a costly triumphal car. Several additional meetings are reported in the provincial papers for the appointment of deputations to attend the repeal levee, to be held by Mr O'Connell and his late fellow prisoners in the Rotunda, on the 30th instant. A requisition has been numerously signed from the Dublin corporation, addressed to the Lord Mayor *locum tenens*, calling on him to convene a meeting of that body for Wednesday next, to agree to an address to the late state prisoners, to be presented at the levee at the Rotunda, on the 30th of May next.

DISSENSIONS IN THE REPEAL COUNCILS.—As it was predicted, the long-smouldering jealousy, if not positive distrust, subsisting between "Young Ireland" and the "Grandfather" (the writers of the *Nation* and Mr O'Connell), has burst forth into a furious and irreconcilable schism. A meeting of the committee of the '82 club—a body which, by the way, never altogether enjoyed the confidence of the leader—was held on Friday, when, amongst other topics, the question of academical education was incidentally brought under discussion, and views diametrically opposed to each other were put forward by Mr O'Connell and the representatives of the "Young Ireland" party present on the occasion—the former severely condemning the tone of the article published in the *Nation* of that day, upon the subject of the new colleges; the latter retorted with becoming spirit, and an angry controversy terminated by Mr O'Connell charging his antagonists with having "drawn the sword," and that they should be prepared to abide the consequences. And so the matter rests, for some time at least. — *Times*. — The *Nation* declares the government plan of education lacks but trifling amendments to make it perfectly palatable to the tastes of the less scrupulous, perhaps less bigoted, religionists among the Roman Catholic body. The main objection with "Young Ireland" is, the vesting in the Crown the enormous patronage which the bill creates. Separate instruction is wholly condemned; and an intimation is given that, should residence in the colleges be deemed necessary hereafter, then that a professor of theology for each of the three creeds should be provided for the pupils; or, in the event of out-door residence, that provision should be made for the appointment of clergymen nominated by the Catholic, Protestant, and Presbyterian churches respectively, without the direct interposition of the college—for each parent, as a matter of course, would put his own child under the control of his own church.

A Belfast paper gives a most flourishing account of the extraordinary and rapidly-increasing prosperity of that place; trade being particularly brisk, new factories growing up, and improvements taking place in every direction.

FATHER MATHEW'S DIFFICULTIES.—In a letter to a clerical friend, Theobald Mathew announces that his debts have now been all liquidated, to the amount of £7,000, principally by contributions from England, with some partial aid in Ireland.

SCOTLAND.

A SPEAKING LARK.—There is at present, in the possession of Mr Muir, hairdresser, Kirkcaldy, a lark of this description. Mr Muir has been very successful in rearing starlings; and, what with attention and the benefit of example, the lark has picked up the numerous sentences used by a starling reared by Mr Muir. The lark will occasionally stop short in its song, and, looking towards its owner, if engaged in conversation with a stranger, pop the query, "What do you say, sir?" to the no small astonishment of the visitor. The starling at present in his possession he lately disposed of for the sum of five guineas. It is a perfect bird of its kind, and as talkative as a child, amusing itself, after having gone through its whole vocabulary of English, with a song to the tune of "The Quaker's Wife." Mr Muir is extremely and justly proud of his *protégés*.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION.—The fifteenth meeting will be held at Cambridge, commencing June 19. The time was fixed thus early in order to suit the "Commencement," which brings a large concourse to the University. The great feature of the ensuing meeting will be a congress of the observers at the different magnetical observatories stationed throughout Europe. Sir J. Herschel is president this year.

There is a rumour that E. B. Clive Esq., one of the liberal members for the city of Hereford, is likely to retire shortly from the representation; his very advanced age and the recent loss of his son making his attendance in parliament irksome and fatiguing. — *Gloucester Journal*.

EVERYBODY'S COLUMN.

Great Britain is the nation most given to hanging, and also that in which crimes of violence and death are of most frequent occurrence.

The consumption of coffee in the year ending April, 1844, was 7,979,386 lbs.; in the year ending April, 1845, 9,578,825 lbs.

The mountains of Langdale and Troutbeck, as well as Conistone and the surrounding fells, were last week capped with snow.

There is to be a magnificent royal *bal costumé* at Buckingham Palace, on the 6th of June. The period selected for illustration by the costume worn upon the occasion is that from 1740 to 1750.

The area of the United States is 2,300,000 square miles, or 650,000 miles more than the whole of Europe, excepting Russia. The single state of Virginia is one-third larger than England.

CONCLUSIVE REASONING.—A wag the other day denied that John Bunyan was the author of the "Pilgrim's Progress." Being vehemently contradicted, "Nay," said he, "I question even if he contributed to the work; for it is impossible that a *bunio* could contribute to any pilgrim's progress."

The Scottish Temperance League have resolved to engage the celebrated Dr Grindrod, of Manchester, to lecture in the principal cities and towns of Scotland, during this year, on the temperance question.

Under the new tariff, 18,000 watches have been imported in place of 3,000, as heretofore.

A single number of a Staffordshire paper published the other day, contains no fewer than twenty-one advertisements of extensive sales of agricultural stock, the property of farmers who are "giving up the farm," or "retiring from business."

It is said to be the intention of Father Mathew to visit Hull very early in July, and that negotiations are in progress for holding a grand temperance fête in the Zoological Gardens on the occasion.

TOWN AND TRADE OF PRESTON.—We are informed by a competent authority, that the various new mills now being erected will require 450 horse-power, and this increase we presume will employ about 3000 additional hands. — *Preston Guardian*.

Carus Wilson, who is very tall, calling one day at a house a little out of town, looked in at a little window over the door, and asked the woman, who sat by the fire, if her husband was at home? "No, Sir," said she, "but if you please to alight, and come in, I'll go and call him."

The Norwich Union Fire Insurance Office has this year paid £20,000 less than last year for loss by incendiary fires; a clear indication that increased employment and cheap bread have improved the morals of the people.

THE LAST PIECE.—The last cut of cake lay on the dish, and all were too considerate to take it: on every hand it was declined. By accident, however, the candle was snuffed out, and the room thrown into darkness; when each of the party immediately encountered the hands of his neighbours on the coveted morsel!

DISCOVERY SHIPS.—The Erebus, Captain Sir John Franklin, and the Terror, Captain Crozier, discovery ships, left Woolwich on Monday afternoon, in tow of the Myrtle and Monkey steam-tugs. They will remain at Greenhithe for a few days, to have their compasses adjusted, and will then proceed in their voyage.

DEATH OF A CENTENARIAN COUPLE.—It is but three or four weeks since we gave an account of the extraordinary age of Mr and Mrs Plaisance, then living in Redmoor-fen, in the Isle of Ely, the husband of the age of 107, the wife 105. On Wednesday, strange to relate, after a short affliction, both expired on the same day. They have left one daughter, who lived with them, of the age of 84. — *Bury Post*.

A MILLIONAIRE.—The will of the late P. J. Miles, Esq., of Bristol, has been proved, and the personal property alone, is sworn to be above a million sterling (the highest amount on which duty is payable). The stamp affixed to the probate is of the value of £15,700. He leaves to each of his sons £100,000, and £50,000 additional to the eldest, besides a variety of legacies. The father of the deceased was a contemporary of the present wealthy Alderman Daniel, and both of them were once labourers on the Bristol quay.

BENEVOLENT EFFORTS.—The Newcastle and North Shields Religious Tract Association of Friends, have distributed, by sale and otherwise, during the year, 24,976 tracts, and since the commencement of the association, 342,695. — *The British Friend*.

The late William Johnston, Esq., long a merchant and shipowner in Kircudbright, has, by his will, bequeathed the magnificent sum of £5,600 sterling for the immediate erection and endowment of a free-school.

CHEAP LITERATURE.—The whole of Macaulay's essays, in two volumes, are sold in New York for 50 cents (2s). This is giving literature to the million. 5,000 copies at least have been circulated. — *American Facts*.

FACTS WORTH KNOWING.—In the reign of Edward I. gold was first coined, cannon used, turnpikes and clocks introduced, and the woolen manufacture first established; Windsor castle built, Trinity Sunday first observed, the first speaker of the House of Commons chosen, and the title of Esquire given to people of fortune. In the reign of Henry the IV. the Azores and Cape de Verde Islands were discovered, the Vatican library founded, caps, and jewels were first worn, and pumps invented. In Elizabeth's reign stops were introduced in writing, coaches and watches first common in England, and criminals first sentenced to transportation. The reign of Charles II. produced fire-engines, buckles, gazettes, and a penny post.

Correspondence.

THE DISSENTING DEPUTIES OF THE THREE DENOMINATIONS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—In your paper of last week, "A Constant Reader" complains of deputies taking upon themselves that office, and not being elected by the church. It speaks but little for the independence of an Independent church, when such is the case as represented by your correspondent; but is that a solitary case? I am afraid it is far otherwise. I communicate with a church which (it is said) sent two deputies to the public breakfast of the Anti-Maynooth committee; but as I attended all the meetings connected with the church, either public or private, I am quite sure the church knew nothing about it. And at other times, when the church has been aware that deputies were to be sent, and a church meeting has been called, instead of any one being proposed by the church, the wealthiest persons connected with the church (being deacons) have got up at once and told the members they could go.

Now, sir, facts like these are too glaring to go unnoticed. On such errands, is it intelligence, or wealth, that is to be the standard of efficiency? In my humble opinion, it ought to be piety, combined with intelligence. A man may be a good man, and have a large share of this world's goods, and yet not possess the qualification and abilities for such an occasion as the present.

In times like these, the men chosen by Dissenters to represent them, ought to be men calculated to announce and defend their principles on any and every emergency. Assertions in our times go for nothing. Every man filling the office of deputy from a Dissenting congregation, ought, first, to be elected by the church, according to fundamental rules of our congregational churches; and the church should see to it, that they are men calculated to meet not only the false logic of Catholicism, but the sophistry of state-churchism, with sound unanswerable arguments, and to declare their own principles, with the ground on which they are maintained.

I assure you, sir, I write with no feeling of ill-will against any persons or person; but, thinking such courses dissonant from the independence of our churches, I refer myself to you, that if I am wrong, you will be kind enough to correct my error.

I am, sir, &c.,

May 19th, 1845. A POOR INDEPENDENT.

The Complete Suffrage Movement.

The council of the Complete Suffrage Union met at their rooms, 37, Waterloo street, Birmingham, on Monday. The Secretary read letters from Liverpool, Brentford, London, Chatham, and Aberdeen, acknowledging receipt of the circular of the council, and forms of petition in favour of Mr W. S. Crawford's amendment on Lord John Russell's motion, and stating that efforts were being made to get up petitions in its favour.

A petition, similar in substance to that adopted by the Council of the Union in support of Mr Crawford's amendment to Lord John Russell's resolutions, has been adopted, and lies for signature in various parts of Liverpool.

MALDON.—We have been favoured with a visit from that excellent and talented clergyman, Mr T. Spencer, of Hinton, near Bath. He has this week been amongst us advocating the cause of temperance, free trade, and the universal enfranchisement of the people. On Monday evening we had a temperance soiree, which was attended by 350 people, in the Cromwell Lecture hall; after which we had a public meeting, when he spoke nearly two hours, to the delight of a crowded audience. On Tuesday he exposed the fallacy of the corn laws, proving that they are injurious to all classes. On Wednesday he advocated the enfranchisement of the people. The truly Christian spirit and earnestness of manner which he displays, combined with the simplicity and clearness of his illustrations, are calculated to break down the opposition of our most inveterate opponents, if not to win them over to our ranks. Many, who before looked upon our principles as dangerous and impracticable, are now ready to admit their justice, and lend their aid to disseminate them.

ROYAL MOVEMENTS.—The *Mannheim Journal* publishes the following extract of a letter, dated, Coburg, 11th inst:—

"An English courier, who arrived here some days since, brought intelligence that, unless some unforeseen obstacle occur, Queen Victoria will arrive here on a visit in the course of the ensuing month, with her consort Prince Albert. Preparations are already being made at the court for their reception."

A correspondent in St Petersburg (says the *Times*) writes, under date 30th ult., that Prince Albert is expected in that capital in the course of the present summer, to return the visit of the Emperor to her Majesty Queen Victoria, last year. He would be accompanied by Prince George of Cambridge, ostensibly to be present with him at the series of reviews to take place according to the annual custom; but also, it was said at court, with a regard to the possibility of a matrimonial alliance with the Imperial Grand Duchess Olga.

On Monday evening the Queen gave a state ball at Buckingham Palace, which was more numerously attended than any former ball given by her Majesty, nearly 2,000 invitations having been issued.

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY.—We have great pleasure in announcing, that the Diet of Sweden has responded to the appeal of the King in such a manner as to secure the abolition of slavery in the island of St Bartholomew. Freedom is thus secured to between 400 and 500 human beings now in slavery. At the same time we should have been more happy if this act of humanity and justice had been completed at once, rather than diffused over a period of five years.—*Anti-slavery Reporter*.

Last year the gross revenue derived from the Post-office was £1,736,282, and the net revenue £719,957; showing every year, since 1840, a gradual increase in the profit of the Post-office, it being now nearly three-quarters of a million clear revenue annually.

The wills of the late Bishop of Ely and of the late Baron Gurney were proved a few days ago. The personal estate of the former was sworn under £40,000, and of the latter under £80,000. The will of the Marquis of Westminster has just been proved. The personal estate in England, and within the province of Canterbury, is sworn under £350,000. He bequeaths to his wife an annuity of £6,500, in addition to her property under settlement. His estates at Westminster and the manor of Ebury are bequeathed to his eldest son, the present marquis; his estates in Chester, Flint, and Denbigh, as well as the presentation to the rectory of Prestwich, to his son Thomas, Earl of Wilton; his Moor park estate, and a legacy of £170,000, to his son Lord Robert Grosvenor.

RAILWAYS AND THE WEATHER.—It has been suggested that the state of the electricity of the atmosphere, on which depend most of the meteorological changes, may be greatly altered by having iron conductors traversing the country in all directions. Thus, iron transmits electricity easily from one end of the country to another; but not being insulated, it only opens a communication of easier transmission in all the directions of the iron rails. It has been said that not more than half the quantity of rain has fallen during the past year. The electricity of the clouds would be puzzled were the surface of the earth covered with a non-electric, as glass; and why should not a complete conduction in certain lines give passage to much electricity, which, in the ordinary character of the usual surface of the ground, would be more naturally and more beneficially distributed?—*Builder*.

RAILWAY NOTABILIA.—An immense mass of railway bills remain to be considered by parliament. Of 248 railway projects, it has as yet got through only twenty-eight or twenty-nine. What is to be done with the remainder?—Notwithstanding the reduction altogether of twenty-five per cent. in the passengers' fares on the London and Birmingham railway, and as much in their goods charges, the last week's traffic is £2,800 over the corresponding week of last year.—On the Great Western railway the second-class carriages have been closed in, and rendered fit for the conveyance of passengers; "return tickets" have been issued, by which a considerable reduction is made in the charge for conveying a person to and from any given place; and, lastly, an early train is now running from London.

BIRTHS.

May 9, at Spital House, Castle Donington, Leicestershire, the wife of Mr JOHN CHAPMAN, Baptist minister, Woodchester, Gloucestershire, of a daughter.

May 11, at Odeon House, Appledore, Devon, Mrs JEROME CLAPP, of a daughter.

May 16, at Brunswick Parade, Islington, Mrs JOSEPH SOUL, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

May 10, at the Independent chapel, Kingswood, by Mr B. O. Bindall, Mr WILLIAM NICHOLLS, minister, of Langport, Somerset, to MARY, eldest daughter of the late Mr COUNSELL, of Kingswood, near Wotton-under-Edge.

May 12, at the Independent chapel, Hockliffe, Beds, by Mr W. Lewis, late minister of the place, Mr JOHN ODELL, to Miss ANN MAHALA LILLEY, both of Toddington, Beds.

May 13, at Salem chapel, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, by Mr T. Thomas, Mr JAMES BROWN, of Kingstead, to Miss MARTHA WRIGHT, of Wellingborough.

May 13, at the Independent chapel, Foleshill, by Dr Styles, Mr JOHN FOSTER, to Miss ANN GIBSON, of Keresley, Warwickshire.

May 14, at the chapel, Chalvey, Bucks, by the Rev. L. Hall, Mr GEORGE BULMER, minister, to Frances Newton, eldest daughter of the late Captain NEALE, of her Majesty's late 25th Light Dragoons.

May 15, at Devonshire-square chapel, by Mr C. Stovel, Baptist minister, Mr ALFRED T. BOWSEN, to Miss DOWSON.

May 19, at the Independent chapel, Brentwood, by Dr Smith, WILLIAM THOMAS INNES, assistant surgeon in Worley Barracks, to CAROLINE CLARK, Great Worley.

May 14, at the Independent chapel, Tean, by Mr D. Griffiths, the pastor, Mr SAMUEL JOHNSON, tailor and draper, to FRANCES, daughter of Mr JOHN FAULKNER, of Tean.

DEATHS.

May 3, aged 70, Mr THOMAS NEWNES, upwards of twenty years deacon of the Independent church at Clive, Salop.

May 8, at Castle meadow, Norwich, in his 58th year, Mr H. J. BALLS, senior deacon of the church at the Old Meeting house.

May 10, in the 65th year of his age, Mr JAMES PAVITT, of Clavering, Essex, for many years a beloved and honoured deacon of the Independent church in that place.

May 12, at Born, on the Rhine, M. A. G. VON SCHLEGEL. He was, with his brother Frederic, who died at Vienna in the year 1822, the founder of what is called the romantic school of German literature, a school which includes amongst its members Werner and Novalis, and of whom the only representative who now remains is Louis Tieck.

May 13, at St Andrew's, upwards of 70 years of age, Dr JOHN COOK, for a long period the acknowledged leader of the moderate party in the established church of Scotland, and for the last seventeen years professor of moral philosophy and political economy in the United college of St Salvador and St Leonard's, St Andrews.

May 14, at Barnsley, Yorkshire, JANE PRIOR, the beloved wife of Mr B. BEDDOW, minister.

May 14, Mr CHARLES DEWHIRST, who for upwards of forty years was a faithful minister of Christ at Bury St Edmund's.

May 18, aged 9 months, WILLIAM, the infant son of James and Sarah BARCLAY, of Steeple Green.

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, May 16.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to an act of 6 and 7 Will. IV., cap. 85:—

The Scotch National church, Crown court, St Martin's-in-the-fields.

BANKRUPTS.

COLE, FREDERIC LINDSAY, Fenchurch street, City, wine merchant, June 5, 27: solicitor, Mr Goddard, Wood street, Cheapside.

LAMPREY, JOHN, Warwick, money scrivener, May 30, June 24: solicitors, Messrs Morris and Wallington, Warwick, and Messrs Harrison and Smith, Birmingham.

LAWTON, EDWARD, and KAY, THOMAS, Rochdale, Lancashire, ironfounders, June 2, 30: solicitors, Mr Halsall, Middleton, and Messrs Mayhew and Son, Carey street, Lincoln's inn, London.

LIVINGSTON, JAMES, and BRITTAIN, THOMAS, Manchester plumbers, May 30, June 20: solicitors, Mr Henry Kensall, Chester; Mr W. W. Goulden, Manchester; and Messrs Milne and Co., Temple, London.

RICHARDS, JAMES, Deptford bridge, Kent, plumber, May 30, June 27: solicitor, Mr Burn, Great Carter lane, Doctors' commons.

RUSSELL, WILLIAM, KNOWLES, JAMES, and SIMISTER, HENRI, Salford, Lancashire, perchers, May 24, June 12: solicitors, Mr Todd, Manchester, and Messrs Vincent and Sherwood, Temple, London.

SUMMERS, WILLIAM, and RAE, NICHOLAS, Strangeways, Lancashire, ropemakers, June 4, July 1: solicitors, Mr Makinson, Manchester, and Messrs Gregory and Co., Bedford row, London.

DIVIDENDS.

J. H. Heron, Manchester, cotton spinner: final div. of 11-16ths of a penny, any Wednesday—W. Caton, Preston, ironmonger; final div. of 64d., June 3, or any subsequent Tuesday—T. Crossfield, Kieham, Lancashire, linen draper: first div. of 5s., June 3, or any subsequent Tuesday—J. Trevitt, Wheaton Aston, butcher; first div. of 3s. 3d., any Thursday.

Tuesday, May 20.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to an act of 6 and 7, Wm IV., cap. 85:—

Independent chapel, Staplehurst, Kent.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

ASTON, WILLIAM, sen., Aston-juxta-Birmingham, victualer.

WICKS, JACOB, Bristol, tea dealers.

BANKRUPTS.

CLEMENT, GEORGE, and SAMMONS, HENRY, Nelson terrace, Stoke Newington, tea dealers, May 27, July 1: solicitor, Mr William Green, 18, Great Carter lane, Doctors' Commons.

DAVIS, WILLIAM, Compton, Staffordshire, butcher, May 28, June 23: solicitors, Messrs Motteram and Knowle, Birmingham.

GUIGUES, VICTOR, 1 and 2, Leicester street, Leicester square, hotel keeper, May 27, July 1: solicitor, Mr Dawes, 15, Serjeants' inn, Fleet street.

PARKER, JACOB, Cheltenham, cabinet maker, May 30, June 27: solicitor, Mr John Packwood, Cheltenham.

PERRS, GEORGE TUPPENNY, Ironmonger lane, Cheapside, City, plumber, May 28, June 25: solicitors, Messrs Pain and Hatherly, 83, Basinghall street, and Great Marlborough street.

STOCKS, WILLIAM, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, merchant, June 5, July 3: solicitors, Messrs Jacques and Edwards, Ely place, London; Mr Kidd, Holmfirth, Yorkshire; and Mr John Blackburn, Leeds.

TERRY, HENRY, now or late of Battersea, Surrey, victualer, May 29, July 5: solicitors, Messrs Fisher and De Jersey, 162, Aldersgate street.

WATSON, WILLIAM, Wakefield, licensed victualer, June 9, 27: solicitors, Mr H. B. Clarke, Chancery lane, London; and Mr John Watson, Wakefield.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BUCHANAN, WILLIAM, Paisley, tea merchant, May 24, June 14.

SHIRREFF, ROBERT, Glasgow, gunpowder manufacturer, May 27, June 17.

DIVIDENDS.

F. J. H. Muller, now or late of 6 and 7 Adde street, Wood street, City, furrier, sec. div. of 3d., May 24, and two following Saturdays. H. R. Stutchbury, 47, Theobald's road, Bedford row, bookseller, first div. of 3s. 6d., May 24, and two following Saturdays. J. T. Nash and John Tomlinson, jun., of York, mustard manufacturers, sec. div. of 9d., and on new proofs first div. of 7s. 5d., any Tuesday. B. W. Palmer, Davenport, Northamptonshire, wine merchant, div. of 4s., May 21, and any subsequent Wednesday. G. Francis, and T. Francis, jun., Cambridge, corn merchants, sec. div. of 5d. any Wednesday. E. Thornley, Hincley, Leicestershire, money scrivener, sec. div. of 1s. 24d. any Thursday. Mary Cooley, Spalding, Leicestershire, tailor, first div. of 1s. 4d. any Thursday. W. Walker, Birmingham, hatter, first div. of 3s. any Thursday. T. Lee, Odham, Hampshire, tailor, first div. of 3s. 6d., May 21 and two following Wednesdays.

BRITISH FUNDS.

There is very little business doing in the funds, and scarcely any perceptible difference in the quotations; but consols are a shade firmer.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	99	99	99	99	99	99
Ditto for Account	99	99	99	99	99	99
3 per cents Reduced	98	98	98	98	98	98
New 3 per cent.	100	100	101	100	100	100
Long Annuities	11	11	11	11	11	11
Bank Stock	205	210	210	210	210	210
India Stock	277	278	278	277	277	277
Exchequer Bills	56pm	56pm	56pm	56pm	56pm	56pm
India Bonds	70pm	—	68pm	69pm	68pm	69pm

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian	—	Mexican	37
Belgian	99	Peruvian	31
Brazilian	99	Portuguese 5 per cents	—
Buenos Ayres	42	Ditto converted	67
Columbian	15	Russian	118
Danish	88	Spanish Active	35
Dutch 2 1/2 per cents	63	Ditto Passive	8
Ditto 4 per cents	98	Ditto Deferred	18

RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham and Derby	—	London & Birm. 1/2 shares	38
Birmingham & Gloucester	138	London and Brighton	64
Blackwall	9	London & Croydon/Trunk	18
Bristol and Exeter	84	London and Greenwich	11
Cheltenham & Gt. Western	—	Ditto New	24
Eastern Counties	18	Manchester and Leeds	155
Edinburgh and Glasgow	65	Midland Counties	168
Grand Junction	—	Ditto New Shares	30
Great North of England	209	Midland and Derby	128
Great Western	186	Ditto New	—
Ditto Half	105	South Eastern and Dover	41
Ditto Fifths	42	South Western	70
London and Birmingham	236	Ditto New	14

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, May 19.

Having a short supply of English wheat this morning, there was rather more firmness in the trade: fine qualities in some instances brought a trifling advance; other sorts were cleared off on fully as good terms.

Free Foreign meets a steady sale at former prices. Holders of bonded generally demand more money, and some transactions are reported at higher rates than were obtainable last week.

Barley supports former quotations.

Beans and peas are both quite as dear.

The return shows a large arrival of oats, and nearly all the foreign supply is offering duty paid. The sales to-day have been principally in small parcels to the country buyers, at about the currency of this day se'night; but in some cases rather lower rates were submitted to.

Wheat, Red	40 to 46	Malt, Ordinary	46 to 50
Fine	46 to 52	Pale	52 to 60
White	42 to 50	Rye	30 to 34
Fine	50 to 55	Peas, Hog	24 to 27
Flour, per sack	32 to 41	Maple	33 to 38
Barley	21 to 26	Boilers	34 to 38
Malt	30 to 34	Beans, Ticks	32 to 36

DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN.

Beans, Pigeon	35 to 38	Wheat	30s. 6d.
Harrow	33 to 37	Barley	7 0
Oats, Feed	22 to 24	Oats	6 0
Fine	22 to 24	Rye	10 0
Poland	22 to 24	Beans	7 0
Potato	22 to 24	Peas	6 0

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR MAY 16.		AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF THE SIX WEEKS.	
Wheat	45s. 10d.	Wheat	46s. 1d.
Barley	30 5	Barley	31 7
Oats	21 6	Oats	21 2
Rye	31 4	Rye	30 7
Beans	37 1	Beans	35 9
Peas	36 8	Peas	36 3

SEEDS.

As the regular season for the purchase of cloverseed is now closed, the transactions have been mostly on speculation at irregular rates. Canaryseed was rather plentiful, and somewhat easier to buy. In other articles there was little or nothing passing.

LInseed		Clover	
English, sowing	52s. to 58s.	English, red....	— to —
Baltic, ditto	— .. —	Ditto, white....	— .. —
Ditto, crushing	40 .. 45	Flemish, pale ..	— .. —
Me. it. & Odessa	40 .. 44	Ditto, fine.....	— .. —
Hempseed, small	35 .. 38	New Hamb., red ..	— .. —
Large	— .. —	Ditto, fine.....	— .. —
Canary, new	47 .. 48	Old Hamb., red ..	— .. —
Extra	51 .. —	Ditto, fine.....	— .. —
Caraway, old	44 .. 46	French, red.....	— .. —
New	48 .. 50	Ditto, white....	— .. —
Rye-grass, English	— .. —	Coriander	12 .. 18
Scotch	— .. —	Old	— .. —
Mustard	— .. —	Rapeseed, 24l. to 26l. per last.	— .. —
Brown, new	8 .. 12	English, new ..	23l. to 25l.
White	12 .. 14	Linseed cakes	— .. —
Trefoil	17 .. 21	English	11l. 0s. to 12l.
Old	— .. —	Foreign	7l. 0s. to 8l.
Tares, new, ...	6s. 6d. to 7s. 6d.	Rapeseed cakes	— to —

PROVISIONS, LONDON, May 19.

The supplies of new Irish butter are still very limited, and consist chiefly of fourth and fifth Corks, which meet a free sale at 78s. to 84s.; a few Limericks also arrived, brought 94s. to 96s. for firsts. A speculative sale of a large quantity of Corks was reported at 80s. free on board, for shipment July to October inclusive. Foreign butter sold freely, and towards the close of the week an advance of 2s. to 4s. per cwt. realised. Notwithstanding the continued large arrivals of bacon, the market remains very firm, and prices seem well supported, particularly for prime mild cured parcels. In hams and lard no alteration to notice.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, May 19.

The supply during the past week has been less than in several of the preceding, yet the immense stock in hand was more than sufficient for the demand. There was considerable business done in the low-priced goods.

POTATOES, BOROUGH, Monday, May 19.

York Reds		Kent & Essex Whites	
30 to 40	40 to 45	30 to 40	40 to 50
Perth do	30 to 40	Do. Whites	40 to 45
Early Devons do ..	40 to 46	Guernsey Blues ..	— to 50
Cornwall do	— to —	Prince Regents ..	50 to 60
Jersey Blues	— to 50		

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, May 19.

The beef trade was active, at an advance in the quotations obtained on Monday last of from 2d. to 4d. per 8lbs., and at which a clearance was speedily effected. To-day we had on offer 40 foreign beasts and 20 sheep, the whole of which were disposed of at fair quotations. Although the numbers of sheep were on the increase, the prime old Downs moved off steadily; but all other kinds were a slow inquiry, and previous rates were not supported in every instance. Prime lambs sold freely, at extreme rates; but great difficulty was experienced in effecting sales of other kinds. In calves a fair amount of business was doing, at improved currencies. The pork trade was rather dull, yet previous rates were supported.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef	3s. 0d. to 4s. 6d.	Veal	4s. 0d. to 4s. 6d.
Mutton	3 6 .. 5 0	Pork	3 0 .. 4 0
Lamb, 4s. 10d. to 6s. 0d.			

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

Beasts.		Sheep.		Calves.		Pigs.	
Friday 769	9,630	232	284				
Monday 2,426	26,560	82	332				

NEWGATE and LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, May 19.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.		Per 4lbs. by the carcase.	
Inferior Beef 9s. 8d. to 9s. 10d.	Inf. Mutton 3s. 6d. to 3s. 10d.	Middling do 3 2 .. 3 4	Mid. ditto 4 0 .. 4 4
Prime large 3 4 .. 3 6	Prime ditto 4 6 .. 4 10	Prime small 3 6 .. 3 8	Small ditto 4 0 .. 4 4
Large Pork 9 10 .. 9 12	Small Pork 3 8 .. 4 0	Lamb, 4s. 8d. to 5s. 8d.	

WOOL.

The public sales of Wool commenced on Tuesday last, and have been in daily progress since. About 16,000 bales are expected to be offered before the series concludes. The attendance of buyers has been exceedingly numerous; great spirit has been shown in the biddings, and fully previous rates, to a slight advance, has been obtained. The imports last week were 4,778 bales. Of this quantity, 1,197 bales were from South Australia, 1,204 from Sydney, 1,085 from Port Phillip, 575 from the Cape of Good Hope, 449 from Algoa Bay, 176 from Bombay, and the rest from Germany and Buenos Ayres.

COTTON.

The Cotton market has been very quiet during the week, and prices are inclined to fall. American descriptions have already been reduced 1d. per lb., and, in some instances, middling qualities offered at a greater reduction.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, May 17.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Coarse Meadow ..	70s. to 90s.	New Clover Hay ..	90s. to 123s.
New ditto	— .. —	Old ditto	— .. —
Useful Old ditto ..	92 .. 104	Oat Straw	38 .. 42
Fine Upland ditto ..	105 .. 113	Wheat Straw	42 .. 43

COAL EXCHANGE, May 19.

Stewart's, 17s. 6d.; Hetton's, 17s. 0d.; Braddyll's Hettons, 18s. 0d. Ships arrived this week, 208.

GROCERIES, TUESDAY, MAY 20.

TEA.—16,644 packages were offered in public auction. Of these only 1,600 were sold, and the remainder bought in. Imperial and gunpowder sold at a decline of 2d. per lb. There was no alteration in the prices of the other descriptions. The deliveries last week amounted to 499,000 lbs.

COFFEE.—1,300 bales Mocha, offered in auction, were partly sold at a decline of 2s. to 3s. per cwt. A small parcel of Jamaica sold in auction at good prices. Good ordinary Ceylon have been sold by private contract, at 45s. to 45s. 6d. per cwt. SUGAR.—New Barbadoes sold at 52s. to 53s. 6d., being full market prices. The total purchases of the trade amounted to 1,700 hhds and tierces, being the largest quantity sold in one day for several years. In refined goods the transactions were very large. Standard lumps fetched 69s. to 69s. 6d., and brown grocery 68s. per cwt. Bonded crushed are held at 38s. per cwt.

Advertisements.

AGED MINISTERS' SOCIETY.

THE Annual Meeting of the Society for the Relief of Aged and Infirm Protestant Dissenting Ministers of the Three Denominations will be held at the King's Head, in the Poultry, on Tuesday, 27th of May inst. The Chair will be taken at 12 o'clock precisely.

T. RUSSELL, A.M., Walworth, Hon. Sec.

NEW INDEPENDENT CHAPEL, WINCHMORE HILL, MIDDLESEX.

MR. SUFFELL, No. 17, Brunswick parade, Islington, is authorised to receive SUBSCRIPTIONS towards LIQUIDATING the DEBT remaining on this Place of Worship, the particulars of which have already appeared more than once in this journal. JOHN RADFORD.

Winchmore hill, 12th May, 1845.

BAPTIST UNION, 1845.

THE THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION of the BAPTIST UNION will be held at LEEDS in the present month of MAY (1845), the Rev. F. A. Cox, D.D., LL.D., in the Chair.

On TUESDAY EVENING, the 27th of MAY, a SERMON will be preached at SOUTH PARADE CHAPEL, by the Rev. DAVID GRIFFITHS, of Accrington. Service to commence at Seven o'clock.

On WEDNESDAY, the 28th of MAY, at Ten o'clock in the Morning, meeting of Ministers and Delegates for business in SOUTH PARADE CHAPEL. At One o'clock in the Afternoon Dinner in South Parade School-room. At Two o'clock in the Afternoon, Meeting of Ministers and Delegates for business in South Parade Chapel. At Five o'clock in the Afternoon, Tea in the South Parade School-room. At Six o'clock, Public Meeting in South Parade Chapel.

The Ministers and Delegates will be provided with free tickets of admission to the Dinner and Tea; other friends may have tickets for the dinner 1s. each, and tickets for the tea 6d. each. To be obtained on application to Mr George Morton, Mr John Dean, Mr W. Hindle, or Mr Charles Wales.

Ministers and friends from a distance will be pleased to apply at the Chapel, South Parade, on their arrival at Leeds, for the addresses of the friends who will accommodate them with lodgings.

All letters on these matters, prior to the holding of the Session, are to be addressed to Mr Robert Finnie, Keuben terrace, Leeds.

Just published, in royal 18mo., price 3s. 6d.,

VIEWS of the VOLUNTARY PRINCIPLE, in Four Series; showing its Nature and Intrinsic Excellence—its Adaptation to Man as an Individual—its Harmony with his Social Nature and Position—and its Accordance with the Genius of Christianity. By EDWARD MIALL.

Also, by the same Author, demy 12mo., bound in cloth, 3s. 6d. The NONCONFORMIST'S SKETCH-BOOK; a Series of Views of a State-church and its attendant Evils.

London: AYLOTT and JONES, Paternoster row. Orders received by all Booksellers.

Just published, Part I., price One Shilling,

COMMON SENSE, and the Rights of Conscience vindicated against Apostolical Succession and other Pretensions of Spiritual Despotism. In a Series of Papers from the Independent Whig and other sources.

"We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against spiritual wickedness in heavenly things."—Paul.

Edited by ANDREW SCOTT, Member of the Merchant Company and Chamber of Commerce, Edinburgh.

Edinburgh: Printed for the Editor, and sold by Q. DALRYMPLE, South Frederick street. London: W. STRANGE, 21, Paternoster row.

No. 2 will appear in May.

Just published, price 3s. 6d.,

OUR ERA: a Soliloquy—Social, Political, Religious. With Miscellaneous Pieces. By W. LEASK.

"It contains sentiments that mark him as the philanthropist, the patriot, and the Christian."—Dover Chronicle.

"Incomparably the best of his poetic compositions. The sentiments are sound and salutary; the illustrations are felicitous, and the language is chaste, elegant, and flowing. May it command a speedy and extensive sale."—Christian Examiner.

JACKSON and WILFORD, St Paul's Churchyard.

Medium octavo, in arabesque binding, price 10s. 6d.

WALKS ABOUT THE CITY AND ENVIRONS OF JERUSALEM. By W. H. BARTLETT. Illustrated by Nine Engravings on Steel, by Cousen, Bentley, and Brandard; a Map; and nearly Forty superior Woodcuts.

The object of this Work is to give a correct idea of the present state of this memorable city, from personal observation. The "Walks" embrace the principal objects of interest; many of which have not been drawn or described in any previous publication; and the ancient city is illustrated in a brief essay, with a view of it, as besieged by Titus, drawn up from careful investigation, and beautifully printed in the tinted style by the new patent process.

The Thirtieth Thousand.

FAMILY WORSHIP.—A GUIDE to FAMILY DEVOTION, by the Rev. A. FLETCHER, A.M., of Finsbury chapel, London. Price £1 6s. handsomely bound in cloth, with gilt edges. This work comprises a Hymn, and a Portion of Scripture with suitable Reflections, and Devotional Exercises; presenting an entire course of Family Worship for both the Morning and Evening of every day throughout the Year.

CONGREGATIONAL PSALMODY.—Arranged by the Organist of Westminster Abbey, JAMES TURL, Esq.; and the Gresham Professor of Music, EDWARD TAYLOR, Esq. In one neat volume, royal octavo, cloth, price 8s., Psalm Tunes, being the whole of the Psalm and Hymn Tunes published in the "People's Music Book."

London: GEORGE VIRTUE, 26, Ivy lane.

TO WESLEYAN METHODISTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

Just published, price 2s. 6d., cloth.

LETTERS to WESLEYAN MINISTERS, on MINISTERIAL DUTIES; and an Address to the Members of the Connexion, Second Edition, with an Account of the Trial and Excommunication of the Author.

Published by SIMPKIN and MARSHALL, London.

It is on a subject of the most vital importance to Christianity, and meets this question—"Considering the immense number of Preachers in the Methodist Societies throughout the World, how comes it to pass that there are comparatively so few persons brought over from the kingdom of Satan to the kingdom of Christ?" It proves that the cause rests chiefly with the Priesthood, and exposes and condemns, by constant appeals to the Holy Scriptures, the practice of preaching the same sermon verbatim through a whole Circuit, and accompanying its delivery with the same action, stamping, and weeping, having committed the whole to memory, and delivering it as an actor would in a theatre; and of preaching, and even reading, old sermons, instead of studying the Word of God by faith and prayer, thence bringing the rich treasures to the House of God, and in the fulness of the Spirit delivering them to the people. It condemns it to be feared, a great majority of the travelling preachers, and that they do not like. The Editor of the *Westminster Record* newspaper, in a notice of the book on the 26th ult., says "it is too strong." It is too strong for him. He dare not give it an impartial review, and his notice is a foul calumny on the book and its pious authoress. All genuine Wesleyans will love the book; but the idle, the lazy, and those who believe a preacher can do no wrong, will condemn the book.

A WESLEYAN OF THE OLD SCHOOL.

N.B.—For writing this book, which is unanswerable, the Authoress was expelled from the Society.

NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW BAZAAR.

The Council of the League begs to announce that, for the convenience of those classes who are unable to visit the Bazaar during the usual hours of admission, the Theatre will be OPEN until TEN O'CLOCK on the evenings of Thursday, Friday, and Saturday next. By order of the Council, GEORGE WILSON, Chairman. Theatre Royal, Covent-garden, May 19, 1845.

NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.

FREE TRADE BAZAAR.

THIS DAY, the 21st inst., and the following days, the admittance to the Bazaar will be ONE SHILLING.

The stalls will be replenished with many costly and elaborate specimens of art and workmanship, which have not hitherto been exhibited, on account of want of space.

THE MODEL ROOM

is now complete; and in addition to an almost endless variety of improved AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, and Machines exhibiting the latest discoveries in arts and manufactures, there are working models of a

POWER LOOM

from Bradford; a BLOND LACE Machine from Nottingham; a Machine for weaving cotton velvet; a Machine for making patent cards; a stocking frame from Nottingham, &c. &c. There is also a

POTTER'S WHEEL,

with operatives at work from the Potteries; and bobbin-lace workers from Honiton.

PATENT DOOR and WINDOW TRIGGERS,

for giving ACTION to ALARUMS.—These Triggers are on a principle entirely different from any hitherto in use; that for a door being fixed over the hinge, and for a window, between the meeting rails of the sashes. They are of the simplest construction, and so easy in action as to be the least liable to get out of order; and it is not possible, by any contrivance, to prevent them giving action to the alarm on the opening of a door or window. These Triggers are made also for DOUBLE SWING DOORS.

WATER-CLOSET TRIGGER.—By this contrivance the ordinary (Servants') Closet, with a trap, is as efficient as the most expensive at present in use. The Trigger is fixed over the hinge of the door, and communicates with the valve of the cistern. By opening the door on entering the closet, a sufficient quantity of water is admitted into the basin, which is again charged on leaving. For Hospitals, Prisons, and Asylums, this will be found a cheap and efficient mode of constructing a self-acting water closet. These are made also for water closets of the most expensive kind.

PATENT ALARUM.—This Alarum and Call-

Bell is a great improvement upon any hitherto made. The action is certain. It is now much preferred to the common House Bell. The sound is produced by one blow of a hammer within the bell, and is not continuous. By pulling the wire repeatedly, different persons may be called by their number. For house purposes these bells may be had in musical peals, and while they answer the ordinary purposes by day, the wires may be attached to the doors and windows to serve as Alarums by night.

BURGLARS' ALARUMS.—These are suitable only to give alarm in case of thieves or fire. The noise is loud and continuous. They may be had of several sizes, to act from two to four minutes.

MAY BE HAD WHOLESALE, AT JAMES ARTHUR MILES'S GENERAL BRASS FOUNDRY,

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No. 13, PANCRAS LANE, QUEEN STREET, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON.

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FEET.—Wellington street, Strand, London.—HALL and Co., SOLE PATENTEES of the PANNUS CORIUM, or Leather Cloth Boots and Shoes for Ladies and Gentlemen.—These articles have borne the test and received the approbation of all who have worn them. Such as are troubled with Corns, Bunions, Gout, Chilblains, or tenderness of Feet from any other cause, will find them the softest and most comfortable ever invented—they never draw the feet or get hard, are very durable, and adapted for every climate; they resemble the finest leather, and are cleaned with common blacking.

The Patent India Rubber Goloshes are light, durable, elastic, and waterproof; they thoroughly protect the feet from damp or cold.

Hall and Co's Portable Waterproof Dresses for Ladies and Gentlemen. This desirable article claims the attention of all who are exposed to the wet. Ladies' Cardinal Cloaks, with Hoods, 18s. Gentlemen's Dresses, comprising Cape, Overalls, and Hood, 21s. The whole can be carried with convenience in the pocket.

N.B.—Hall and Co. particularly invite attention to their Elastic Boots, which are much approved; they supersede lacing or buttoning: are drawn on in an instant, and are a great support to the ankle.

METCALFE'S NEW PATTERN TOOTH

BRUSH, and SMYRNA SPONGES.—The Tooth Brush has the important advantage of searching thoroughly into the divisions of the teeth, and cleaning them in the most effectual and extraordinary manner, and is famous for the hairs not coming loose, &c. An improved Clothes Brush, that cleans in a third part of the usual time, and incapable of injuring the finest nap. Penetrating Hair Brushes, with the durable unbleached Russian Bristles, which do not soften like common hair. Fleesh Brushes of improved graduated and powerful friction. Velvet Brushes, which act in the most surprising and successful manner.

The genuine Smyrna Sponge, with its preserved valuable properties of absorption, vitality, and durability, by means of direct importations, dispensing with all intermediate parties' profits and destructive bleaching, and securing the luxury of a genuine Smyrna Sponge. Only at METCALFE'S sole Establishment, 130 B, Oxford street, one door from Holles street. Caution.—Beware of the words, "From Metcalfe's," adopted by some houses.

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It eradicates the factitious formation of tartar, and thus lends a salutary growth and freshness to the Gums. It removes from the surface of the teeth the spots of incipient decay, polishes and preserves the enamel, imparting the most pure and pearly-like whiteness; while, from its salubrious and disinfecting qualities, it gives sweetness and perfume to the breath. Being an anti-scorbutic, the Gums also share in its corrective powers; scurvy is eradicated from them, and a healthy action and redness are induced, so that the teeth (if loose) are thus rendered firm in their sockets. As the most efficient and fragrant aromatic cleanser of the Mouth, Teeth, and Gums, ever known, ROWLAND'S ODONTO has, for a long series of years, occupied a distinguished place at the toilets of the SOVEREIGNS and the NOBILITY throughout Europe, while the general demand for it at once announces the favour in which it is universally held.

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CAUTION.—To protect the Public from Fraud, the hon. Commissioners of Stamps have directed the Proprietors' Signature to be engraved on the Government Stamp, thus—

A. ROWLAND AND SON, 20, HATTON GARDEN, which is affixed on each box. Sold by the Proprietors, and by Chemists and Perfumers. All other Odonto's are Fraudulent Imitations.

Printed and published at the Office, at No. 4, Crane court, Fleet street, in the parish of St Dunstan in the West, in the city of London, by JOHN HENRY DAVIS, of No. 76, York road Lambeth, in the county of Surrey, on WEDNESDAY, 21st of MAY, 1845.